COOPERATION Between Wage Earner and Local Business Interests Brings Community Prosperity

# THE LABOR NEWS

Justice for the Worker ... A Square Deal for the Employer

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

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# A. F. OF L. TO EXTEND ORGANIZATION AMONG MEN IN STEEL PLANTS

## All-Day Meeting With 50 A. F. of L. Organizers in Washington Monday, Developed Means for Conducting Vigorous Campaign Immediately.

**Steel Fabrication Plants, Which Come Under Jurisdiction of Iron Workers' Union, Decided Upon as Main Objective—President Green Says Federation Will Fight for Share in Organization of Mass Production Industries—John P. Frey, Head of Metal Trades Department, in Conference With Carnegie-Illinois Employes' Organization.**

Two dramatic events featured the recent labor news of Washington. President William Green of the American Federation of Labor announced that a drive would be made to enroll men engaged in steel fabrication plants in the International Union of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers; and John P. Frey, head of the Metal Trades Department, accepted an invitation fom the grievance committee of the Carnegie-Illinois company union at Pittsburgh to meet with them in a "conference which may be of mutual benefit." Frey left for Pittsburgh on Tuesday.

Mr. Green's announcement came after an entire day's conference held at A. F. of L. headquarters last Monday, spent in discussing plans with 50 organizers from all parts of the country. Mr. Green, saying that he had nothing startling to announce, told of his plan:

"I want to make it clear that the fabrication plants come under the jurisdiction of the iron workers' union," he said. "The American Federation of Labor wants to see these workers organized in bona fide unions. The steel should be fabricated in union plants as well as erected by union workmen. We will support all efforts to organize these fabrication workers into the iron workers' union."

**Intensive Campaign Promised**

Asked if there had ever before been a dispute between the iron workers and the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel & Tin Workers, for which the Committee for Industrial Organization is pulling, Green answered that he did not recall any prior to the protest recently filed by the iron workers that the CIO had invaded its jurisdictional rights.

"We shall put on a definite and in-

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# Distinction Drawn Between A. F. of L. and C. I. O.

**State Federations and City Centrals Called Upon by A. F. of L. Executive Council to Renew Allegiance and Devotion to Philosophy, Principles and Policies, and Draw Line of Distinction Between A. F. of L. and Committee for Industrial Organization—Condemns Support to Dual Group—Portland C. L. U. to Act on Communication at March 17th Meeting.**

Much consideration was given an important communication received from the American Federation of Labor and read at the Wednesday, Mar. 3rd, meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union, this applying to the stand to be taken relative to activities of the Committee for Industrial Organization, and which called for action by all A. F. of L. affiliates.

According to the communication, the CIO is declared a dual organization to the A. F. of L., that its activities of the past few months clearly show the time has now arrived for chartered organizations to renew their allegiance and devotion to the philosophy, the principles and the policies of the American Federation of Labor, and that all affiliates are called upon to draw a line and make a distinction between the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization. The communication, final action on which was postponed until the next meeting, will be made a special subject for discussion.

The time has come when all A. F. of L. unions, national, state and local, and their members "are called upon to draw a line and to make a distinction between the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization," declares William Green, president of the Federation, in a letter sent by direction of the A. F. of L. Executive Council to the officers and members if all affiliated organizations.

The necessity for this action, Mr. Green said, has been brought about

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# A Chance for Lewis to Make a 10-Strike

**Pease At This Momentous Time Would Mean Greatest Coup in History of Organized Labor Movement.**

The writer does not pretend to be a mind reader, but his experiences and observations of more than half a century as an active worker and a student of trade union affairs have been such as to furnish a pretty fair background, thereby enabling him to see in a broad manner those things which most seriously concern the Labor movement.

That recent victories scored by the Committee for Industrial Organization have greatly enhanced the importance of this branch of unionism cannot be disputed. The result of the Flint strike, and the part it played in bringing about increased wages, the adoption of the 40-hour week, collective bargaining and other features with officials of steel plants are matters that cannot be ignored as being at least partly due to agitation on the part of C. I. O.

But John Lewis and his closest associates are very capable men. Their many years of experience and observation brought to them most valuable knowledge concerning the stability and characteristics of large masses of working people. In their many years of activities as heads of large bodies of workmen they acquired all that is possible to know regarding the temperament, fickleness, lack of stamina and appreciation, and other weaknesses possessed by a goodly portion of those for whom good conditions have been gained at great expense and sacrifices on the part of those whose only aims and hopes were to accomplish something for their abused, exploited and apparently helpless brothers.

Hence, it is our belief that, notwithstanding the apparent rift between leaders of the C. I. O. and the A. F. of L., that down deep in their hearts John Lewis and his associates have actually in mind using their influence to eventually have this great mass of newly acquired workers become affiliated with the A. F. of L.

The writer takes little stock in arguments advanced by inexperienced and over-enthusiastic leaders, some of

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SENATOR R. M. LA FOLLETTE
Principal Speaker at Labor's Non-Partisan League Convention

# Sailors' Election to Be Supervised by AFL Official

Washington, D. C., Mar. 3 (AFLNS)—In an effort to adjust an inter-union controversy, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at its quarterly meeting here, instructed William Green, president of the A. F. of L., to hold and supervise an election of officers by the members of the Eastern and Gulf Sailors' Association, an affiliate of the International Seamen's union of America. This action was taken with the consent of the parties concerned after several hearings held by the Council on various phases of the dispute.

Mr. Green said the election would probably be held during the month of May, and would be in accordance with the rules of the Seamen's Union.

# Seek Protection Against Low Wage Foreign Labor

Legislation to protect American workmen from competition from low-wage foreign labor, is indicated by Congressman Joseph Martin, Jr., of North Attleboro, and George J. Bates of Salem who sounded vigorous calls for Congressional action to provide this necessary protection.

"I hope we can bring about a greater protection for the industries of Massachusetts and New England," Congressman Martin declared.

Congressman Bates said. "Legislation will facilitate and protect the progress of industry towards recapturing the peak it enjoyed a few years ago."

# Portland Central Labor Union Firmly Endorses Roosevelt's Court Move

## Delegates Unanimous in Requesting Senators and Representatives to Support President in Efforts to Liberalize Federal Courts.

**Lengthy Discussion at March 3rd Meeting, Brought Forth Facts Showing Inability to Accomplish Permanent Stability in Nation's Affairs With Present Attitude Held by Majority of Members of U. S. Supreme Court—Argue More Liberal Interpretation of Constitution Needed to Assure Passage of Laws Intended to Avoid Repetition of Six Years' Industrial and Financial Depression.**

Portland Central Labor Union, at last Wednesday night's meeting, went on record as favoring President Roosevelt's judiciary program and voted to write United States Senators White and Hale, and Congressman Oliver, requesting them to support the President in his efforts to liberalize the Federal judiciary.

Action was taken after the reading of the following communication from the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, which placed that organization solidly on record as backing the President:

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at its quarterly meeting here, approved President Roosevelt's program for reorganization of the Federal Judiciary and announced that it would mobilize the entire labor movement encompassed by the A. F. of L. in support of the President's recommendations.

The action taken by the Executive Council means that 114 National and International Unions, four departments of the A. F. of L. with 522 local department councils, 49 state federations of labor, 734 city central bodies, over 900 directly affiliated local trade and federal labor unions, and more than 32,000 local unions will undoubtedly fall into line in the interest of a long delayed reform in those Federal judicial bodies that have assumed the power to veto laws for the general welfare enacted by the Congress of the United States, signed by the President and approved by the great mass of the voters.

**"Infusion of New Blood" in the Courts Sought**

In his message to Congress, President Roosevelt asked authority to appoint new Federal judges when those already occupying these responsible positions reach the age of 70, with the proviso that in the application of this principle to the Supreme Court, which consists of nine justices, the maximum number of justices shall not exceed fifteen.

In support of his recommendation for the appointment of new judges when incumbent judges reach the age of 70, the President said "the modern

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# A Man at Seventy

**Should He Be Retired From Active Participation in World Affairs—His Likes and Dislikes—His Many Years of Experiences, Associations, Knowledge and How to Grasp Big Problems, and His Appreciation of the Nicer Things of Life.**

By FREEMAN M. SALTUS

That which seems to be the momentous question today is the man who has reached the age of three score and 10.

This is caused by President Roosevelt's desire to re-vamp the United States Supreme Court, mainly because it has in its membership several who have passed their 70th year, and who, some of them, because of their early training and associations, are deemed unable to forget the past and as a consequence are unable to cope with momentous questions of changing times.

Through newspapers and magazines, the radio and sound pictures, the public at present is veritably flooded with opinions from men of various legal or political beliefs—mostly political however, with more or less regard for the legal profession, and the high regard its members have as this relates to the dignity and respect for the courts.

Having reached this period in life, and through close observance of men and their actions during the past 60 years or since becoming associated with an industry that brought him in close contact with men of business and the professions, the writer will attempt to give his views on this question, which, just at present, is taxing the minds of millions of people who, while having faith and confidence in the President are, however, befuddled because of the opinions of some who are his closest friends and supporters.

Considering the question from the business, educational and industrial standpoint, the man having reached the age of 70 is due for retirement. A summary of all large corporations, executives and employes, presidents of colleges, principals of public schools, employes of government, state and municipal service as well as workers engaged in [illegible] industries are slated for retirement, provision being made for them through various kinds of pension systems.

It is, therefore, our contention that not only is a person who has reached the age of 70 unable to perform his duties as an efficient producer, but that doubt exists as to his ability to exercise and render efficient service which requires full mental faculties.

Take, for example, a large corporation, when the directors are

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# "UNJUST TO THE VERY CORE," IS THE WAY OPPONENTS REFER TO MAINE'S PROPOSED SALES TAX

**Special Trains from Portland and Bangor Bring Record Crowd to State House at Hearing on Sales Tax Measure—Opponents Refer To It as Additional Burden and Affording No Relief—Proponents Say It is "Sound and Economical".**

The much-discussed sales tax which has been a bone of contention for several years, is now before the Legislature for a final disposition.

The hearing held at the State House last Wednesday before the Legislative Tax Commission, in the way of attendance was a record-breaker, the hall of the House of Representatives being filled to capacity.

People came from all parts of the State, two special trains—one from Portland, and another from Bangor—having been provided to convey those who were interested in the outcome of the measure.

Among those present representing Labor organizations were officials of the Maine State Federation of Labor and Central bodies from Portland, Bangor and Augusta, these including A. M. Tardiff, president, and Frank C. McDonald, secretary, Portland Central Labor Union; Clarence R. Burgess, secretary Maine State Federation of Labor and also representing the Augusta Central Labor Union; President Benjamin Dorsky, Treasurer Richard W. Gustin, John Ambrose and H. W. Pattee, members of the Legislative Committee, Bangor Central Labor Union, and others.

The above included a phalanx of opponents to the Sales Tax measure, and aside from several who spoke in opposition to the bill, all representatives of Central bodies and local unions recorded their respective organizations as being unalterably opposed to the plan.

The concensus of opinion regarding the proposed sales tax was that it is unjust to the very core; that it imposed an additional burden on already heavily overtaxed people of small means; that it would afford little relief to property owners; that it would penalize merchants, drive business from the State and constitute an indirect income tax on small wage earners.

Proponents, who included officials of the Associated Industries of Maine, recorded that organization as favorable, and former Chief Justice William R.

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# Non-Partisan League Stands by President on Judicial Program

**500 Delegates, Representing Every State in Union, at Washington Meeting, Unanimous in Applauding Move to Liberalize Judiciary—Senator La Follette Drew Deafening Applause When Stating Anti-New Deal Propaganda Machine is Running at Full Speed—Refers to Reactionary Judges Over 70 as "Lame Ducks"—Delegates Storm Capitol in Pleading With Senators and Representatives to Support President—"Al" Young Represents Maine at Convention.**

Organized Labor, as represented by Labor's Non-Partisan League, with its two million members throughout the nation, is solidly back of President Roosevelt's program to reorganize the Federal judiciary.

This was manifested in no uncertain tones at the second convention of the League, held in Hotel Willard, Washington, last Monday and Tuesday, when nearly 500 delegates from every State in the Union gave their unanimous approval to a resolution which clearly set forth the President's program, the full text of which appears on another page.

Included among those present were presidents and secretaries of national and international unions, scores of officials of State Federations and Central bodies, for the most part representing State organizations of the Non-Partisan League.

Of particular interest was the spirited address delivered by Senator Robert M. La Follette. The "Little Senator," who was introduced as the "illustrious son of an illustrious father," was in fine form, and for more than three-quarters of an hour kept his audience spell-bound, and during which he was the recipient of tremendous applause. He said, in part:

**Pitted Against Force of Reaction**

"In this coming legislative struggle the strength of popular democratic government in America will once more be pitted against the organized force of reaction. The same groups that fought President Roosevelt so bitterly last Fall in their vain attempt to regain their former control over the Federal government and strengthen their economic power over the American people are fighting him on this issue of court reorganization. They were repudiated by an overwhelming majority of the people last November, but they have not surrendered. They seek to frustrate the popular will by raising false issues designed to rally support behind the majority of the Supreme Court dominated by the outworn economic beliefs of a past generation. This majority by a tortured construction of the Constitution has impaired the legislative power of Congress.

"Already, a great hue and cry has been raised throughout the nation protesting that the Supreme Court of the United States is a sacred institution above criticism and beyond constructive reform. The lawyers who live by their Liberty League clients have come flying to the defense of their meal tickets, and their bar associations have been working overtime in organizing the attack upon the President's program. The newspapers have taken up the cry of 'dictator' again, and the entire anti-New Deal propaganda machine is running at full speed.

**Stubbornly Challenged**

"Organized labor has made substantial progress in this country by means of political action, but every inch of the way is stubbornly challenged by the social philosophy of a day when strong social control of our economic system was thought by many to be unnecessary. In the past, the frontier offered an avenue of escape for the oppressed and unfortunate. The economic opportunities of an expanding nation with an abundance of natural resources were so great that they were in a very real sense available to almost everyone. There seemed to be enough wealth for everyone to use, steal, or exploit as he pleased without doing serious injury to his neighbors. Society was—tolerant of property rights when everyone could enjoy them equally.

"In this hubbub, it is important that

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# BRANCH OF LABOR'S NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE IMPORTANT HERE TO ACCOMPLISH WORKERS' NEEDS

**Would Include All Progressives Who Realize Present Political Set-Up Fails in Bringing About Needed Legislative Reforms—Workers Cannot Remain Idle—Must Unite and Ensure Passage of Laws Protecting Masses.**

By ALONZO F. YOUNG, Chairman, Labor's Non-Partisan League for Maine

Now that the national election is a thing of the past, and any sore spots and grievances should be eliminated, I believe it is high time we concerned ourselves in northern New England with the creation of a permanent Non-Partisan League set-up, thereby welding a cohesive organization dedicated to the principles of Labor.

This set-up is political in its entirety, but is and must be kept strictly non-partisan, this being absolutely essential if we, as laboring men and women, are to become an important factor in future elections.

We fully realize that both major parties as a whole leave much to be desired; that a great many candidates of both are wholly inimical to the best interests of the masses of working people; therefore, it is necessary that the progressive element of our State, as represented by organized Labor, mould itself into a unit whereby it may hold the balance of power in both primaries and general elections, supporting those candidates who have proven their sincerity toward the ideals and principles of Labor. It should be and must be our duty to support and work for the election of such men to local, state and national office, positively without regard to party affiliation.

**Party Alignment**

Too many times in the past we have let our party alignment sway our best

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# WALSH-HEALEY ACT WAS MAJOR INFLUENCE THAT PERSUADED STEEL CORP. TO GRANT 40-HOUR WEEK

**Enactment of Law by Congress Which Made Mandatory 40-Hour Week Provision in Government Contracts and Solidly Backed by A. F. of L.—President Green Said "Definitely Influenced Corporations to Adopt the Shorter Work Week Plan."**

Washington, D. C., Mar. 10 (AFL).—The decision of Congress to enact the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Bill into law was definitely influenced by the solid backing given the measure by the American Federation of Labor, William Green, president of the Federation, declared at a press conference here. He said the mandatory 40-hour week provision of the Act for contracts for government work was undoubtedly the major influence which persuaded the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation and around thirteen other steel companies to grant their employes shorter hours and increased wages.

"I think I can definitely state," Mr. Green asserted, "that the forty-hour week which has just been granted is directly traceable to the enactment of the Walsh-Healey Act."

Pointing out that the Navy's need for metal was imperative, he said "the steel companies were in a difficult position because they could not meet the requirements under the forty-eight hour week."

In addition, the A. F. of L. chief declared, the steel companies had feared that charges of collusion would be brought against them for their refusal to bid on steel for the Navy and that it was evident public opinion was being aroused because of the Navy's position, which was headed toward curtailment of its construction program because of lack of steel.

He said the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at its recent quarterly meeting here, instructed him to take up with Attorney General Cummings the question of whether the steel companies' boycott of bids for steel was a collusion to violate or get around the Walsh-Healey Act.

Questioned regarding the responsibility for the enactment of the Act, Mr. Green asserted that it was inspired by the American Federation of Labor and that the entire forces of the Federation were mobilized in persuading members of both the Senate and the House of Representatives to vote in favor of the measure.

In this connection it is instructive to note that the 1936 convention of the American Federation of Labor commended the Walsh-Healey Act which the delegates said "establishes the principle that those who enjoy the benefits of substantial contracts from the Federal Government must assure to their employes the privileges of working conditions of at least a minimum American standard."

The convention also favored a reduction in the provision which exempts contracts under $10,000 from the rules of the Act.

## Portland C. L. U. Strongly Endorses President Roosevelt's Court Program

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tasks of judges," not only "call for the use of full energies," but that "modern complexities call also for a constant infusion of new blood in the courts, just as it is needed in executive functions of the Government and in private business." On this point, the President added:

"A lowered mental or physical vigor leads men to avoid an examination of complicated and changed conditions. Little by little, new facts become blurred through old glasses fitted, as it were, for the needs of another generation; older men, assuming that the scene is the same as it was in the past, cease to explore or inquire into the present or the future."

"It is the purpose of the Executive Council to call upon Labor throughout the entire country to give to the President's plan for judicial reform a full measure of support.

Delegates participating in the discussion were unanimous in their belief that as a means for stabilizing the nation's industrial and financial affairs, thereby eliminating the possibility of another six years of depression, which at one time caused more than 15 millions of workers to be unemployed, with attendant suffering and privation that something out of the ordinary is needed to remedy this condition.

The discussion proved one of exceptional interest, bringing out as it did, personal experiences of those who during the depression felt the sting, and who expressed confidence that the "come-back" already made is due wholly to the splendid leadership and the human interest expressed by the President in the great masses of working people.

"The workers of this country," one delegate said, "have the utmost confidence in our great President. During his four years of stewardship, he has demonstrated his unquestioned interest in their behalf, and in this move to make possible liberalization of the courts he is doing something that meets with the approval of every liberal-thinking person in the country.

"It is my firm belief, Mr. Chairman," he continued, "that we owe to the President—who has proven himself a great champion of the working people of this country—the endorsement of his present efforts, and I move that we do so, and request our Senators and Representative in Congress to give the proposal their undivided support."

## 200 TRUCK DRIVERS FORM UNION AND VOTE TO AFFILIATE WITH STATE BR. AND CENTRAL BODY

The formation of a local union of Truck Drivers, with 200 members, at a meeting held Sunday, February 8, and which becomes part of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, adds another important unit to the movement started some time ago to completely unionize men in this craft throughout the New England States.

The organization of Maine truck drivers, it is contended by officials of the international union, forms a compact organization, which makes it possible to secure agreements with employers that will warrant not only better wages, shorter hours and improved working conditions for all employed in this craft, but means the stabilization of the industry, which is greatly appreciated by truck owners in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Hampshire, where the industry has greatly benefited as the result of agreements between the union and truck owners.

Prior to the organization of truck drivers on a large scale, which started in Boston, then in Worcester, Springfield, Hartford, Waterbury and other Connecticut cities, shortly followed by the formation of unions in Providence, Woonsocket, Fall River, New Bedford and Manchester, Nashua, the New England district—with the exception of Maine and Vermont—formed a compact that encircled the principal thoroughfares over which truck transportation is operated.

With organizations now in Portland and Bangor, which are expected to be extended to all parts of the State within a few months, workers employed in this industry now feel confident the way is paved for uninterrupted progress.

Present at the meeting were P. Harry Jennings, organizer for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers Union; Chelsea A. Waldron, president Maine State Federation of Labor; Frank C. McDonald, Portland Central Labor Union, and Edward H Sylvester, of Carpenters' Local and special organizer for the A. F. of L.

## Distinction Drawn

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by the fact that the C. I. O. was organized with the avowed purpose of substituting "minority decisions for majority rule in the organized labor movement of the United States," and that the C. I. O. has persisted in this undemocratic policy from the time of its organization to date despite the endeavors of the Executive Council to adjust the controversy.

Pointing out that the Committee for Industrial Organization had refused to appoint a committee to meet with a committee named by the A. F. of L. Executive Council to attempt to adjust the dispute and thus bring about solidarity of labor, Mr. Green said that the only possible interpretation of the C. I. O. refusal "is that said organization is still determined to carry out its original declared purpose to impose the substitution of minority rule for majority control within the organized labor movement."

**A. F. of L. Must Meet Challenge**

"After reviewing the situation existing in state federations of labor and city central bodies in some localities, and after taking into account the confusion which has been created in the minds of working people and their friends," Mr. Green's letter continued, "the Executive Council decided to call upon all organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and all its friends to meet the challenge which has been offered to the American Federation of Labor.

"In the opinion of the Executive Council, the time has arrived when organizations chartered by the American Federation of Labor and in affiliation with the American Federation of Labor must renew their allegiance and devotion to the philosophy, the principles and the policies of the American Federation of Labor. Representatives of the American Federation of Labor, state federations of labor, city central labor unions and local unions are called upon to draw a line and to make a distinction between the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization.

"In the name of and on behalf of the Executive Council I call upon all national and international unions and subordinate units of the American Federation of Labor to give loyal support to it, to conform to its laws, rules and procedure, and to defend and protect it against attacks or onslaughts from either an outside organization or its representatives, classified as a dual organization and as rival to the American Federation of Labor."

## St. Ry. Employes Name Committee on New Contract

Howard C. Woodside, Hupert Bishop and Howard R. Kelley were named a committee to work out a new agreement for Street Railway Employes' Division 714, at the last meeting of that organization.

The committee will meet with General Manager Fred D. Gordon when the latter returns from the South, where he is now enjoying a well-earned vacation.

## Maine Steel Plants Comply With Walsh Healey Measure

According to reports during the past week, Maine steel companies are rapidly getting into line with the Walsh-Healey Act, which provides for the 40-hour week and payment of prevailing wages, and as a result hopes are entertained by officials of local unions that not only will the entire industry be on a 40-hour week basis in a short time, but that fear held by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Charles Edison that the Navy's building program will be delayed, are groundless.

Included among large Maine firms that are complying with the Walsh-Healey Act, are the Maine Steel Products Co., South Portland, who employ 132 workers; the Thomas Loughlin Co., Portland, makers of marine hardware, who announced the 40-hour week would be established in their plant within a few months, the Sacco-Lowell shops in Biddeford with 1500 employes, and two companies in Bath, namely, the Hyde-Windlass Co., employing 250 men, and the Taylor Roller Bushing Co.

A statement issued by Mr Edison a few days ago, according to union officials, is not as re-assuring as regards his attitude concerning enforcement of the Walsh-Healey Act. Some believe he is inclined toward passy footing this being manifested in his statement to the effect that companies manufacturing Diesel-driven electric generators, refrigerating and air conditioning machinery, electric output and feeder boxes and twine, might delay in complying with the Act and greatly increase construction time, cause labor discontent and result in additional cost.

The Assistant Secretary's remarks are in line with those expressed by Navy officials, who recently voiced their opposition to the labor standards set up in the Walsh-Healey Act, which requires that contractors for $10,000 or more of Government business shall work the 40-hour week and pay the prevailing minimum wage.

## Look for Label When Buying Your Easter Hat

All Central bodies and local unions in the State recently received an appeal addressed to organized Labor by the United Hatters of North America, urging members to be sure when buying new Easter or Spring headwear, or a straw or Panama hat, to see to it that these are union made. The communication follows:

"The United Hatters of North America annually appeal to you at this time of the year to be sure when buying your straw or Panama hat that it contains their Union Label. This year we appeal to your Americanism, as well as your Unionism, and ask you to buy an American-made hat which contains the Union Label of the United Hatters.

"Government statistics show that over half the straw hats worn in America last year were made by cheap labor in foreign countries, which means that American Hatters, members of the United Hatters of North America, were in idleness while hats worn by American citizens were being made by cheap labor in foreign lands.

"Because of cheap labor many hat dealers are now placing their orders in foreign countries, and putting their own name and their own trade mark in the hats; consequently, we advise you not to buy any hat by its name. The only way to be sure that you are getting an American made hat is to see that the Label of the United Hatters of North America is sewed under the sweat-band. Every hat which contains that label is made in America in sanitary workshops.

"This year, more than ever before, we appeal to you to buy an American made hat which bears the Union Label of the United Hatters of North America. Don't let the retailer tell you it is American made—the Union Label sewed under the sweat-band is the only genuine sign."

## Postal Telegraph Signs Agreement With Wire Men

Frank B. Powers, president of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, announced during the week that the management of the Postal Telegraph Company had signed an agreement recognizing the union as the collective bargaining agency for the three districts of Pennsylvania, Michigan and the District of Columbia, following presentation of data showing that a majority of the company's employes in those areas are members of the union.

The agreement also provides for recognition of and agreements with the union in other districts as rapidly as a majority of the employes take out union cards. Under this provision negotiation of union agreements in six other districts in which the union claims it has enrolled a majority of the employes will begin immediately.

In a telegram to President Roosevelt Mr. Powers said the agreement was the first one ever negotiated with any commercial telegraph company in the United States, adding: "This achievement is in accord with the labor objectives of your administration and may be counted a leaf in the great book of progress now being written by our nation."

The jurisdiction of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union covers all employes except those in the following classifications: messengers, clerks and machine operators.

## FAVORS REDUCING NUMBER OF EMPLOYES FROM EIGHT TO FOUR IN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE LAW

Frank D. Johnson, of the State Unemployment Insurance Commission, in an address at the Wednesday, March 3rd, meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union, after explaining details concerning the purpose of the law and what benefits are to be derived by the workers, recommended support for the bill now before the Legislature that would reduce the number of employes affected by the law from 8 to 4.

The law as it is at present constituted, does not include businesses where less than eight persons are employed. This has been considered unfair to employes who do not come under the law, who are thus deprived of unemployment insurance, and A. F. of L. state branches throughout the country are sponsoring bills in favor of this change.

Present at the hearing on the bill, held at the State House on March 10th, were delegates representing the Portland and Bangor Central Labor Unions.

## COPELAND ACT, WHICH FORCES SEAMEN TO CARRY RECORDS OF EMPLOYMENT, MUCH CRITICIZED

According to press reports, more trouble is liable to happen in shipping ports, where it had announced only recently that the strike had been called off, and partial settlements made which made possible the moving of hundreds of ships in all Atlantic and Pacific ports.

The trouble now arises over the enforcement of the so-called Copeland Act, which, according to officials of the International Seamen's Union, requires men to carry records of their employment.

It is contended this constitutes a "blacklist," making it possible for ship owners to refuse employment to members of the union who were actively engaged in strikes, and to connect other seamen to keep union men off the ships.

A sample of what is taking place is now being experienced at the Port of Providence, which, according to Business Agent Amos Votsinet of the Providence Marine Firemen and Water Tenders' Union, who told delegates to the Providence Central Federated Union that the 60 members of his organization who are out of work as the result of the recent strike, are being discriminated against by a scheme that permits captains of oil tankers to work "greenhorns" for a period of three months, at the end of which these can secure permits as fullfledged seamen.

According to press reports, officials of the International Seamen's Union on the Pacific Coast have informed President Roosevelt regarding the dangers imminent if the Copelan Act is taken which will again paralyze commerce.

Ship owners are demanding immediate enforcement, having made demands upon the President and Secretary of Commerce Roper, and according to report, the situation offers anything but bright prospects.

## Special Topcoat Prices at Smiley's

Of interest to all those men who like high-class goods at special low prices, will be the current announcement of Smiley's. They are featuring a fine line of topcoats (the Strocck's Palatia and Alturs model) at prices that make their own appeal.

These garments are made of soft, rich material, blended from the famous Llama and virgin wool mixture. Styles are ultra modern, many of them being illustrated in the leading fashion magazines of today.

Smiley's stores have recently undergone extensive alterations and developments which afford greater facilities to patrons. Typical of this spirit of outerprise is their list of topcoat offerings, to meet the cultivated demands of the public.

## 18th Brookwood College Class to Graduate Mar. 20

Katonah, N. Y. Mar. 16.—With Devere Allen, noted publicist, as the chief speaker, Brookwood Labor College will graduate its fifteenth class on Saturday morning, March 20.

The commencement exercises will mark the end of a six month period of intensive study of labor and farm problems by a student group which includes industrial workers, workers' education teachers, and farmers from all parts of the country. Included in the student body also is a group of professional actors interested in the labor movement who have been preparing themselves for activity in the labor theater.

This last group will form the nucleus for the dramatics tour which forms the second part of the Brookwood school year, and perhaps its best known activity. Leaving the school on April 5, the students will spend two months presenting a program of labor plays, songs and other entertainment to worker and farmer audiences in an area extending from Boston to Minneapolis and reaching as far south as Washington.

**VANCOUVER MEAT CUTTERS SIGN UP 14 NEW SHOPS**

Cutters' Union of Vancouver, B. C. declared a strike against Burns & Co. for having discharged 25 union members, fourteen new meat shops signed a pact with the union in the Vancouver area and displayed the union shop card.

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| BABBITT'S CLEANSER | | 3 CANS | 10c |
| RALEIGH CIGARETTES | | 2 PKGS. | 27c |
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| HERSHEY'S | BAKING CHOC. | ½ LB CAKE | 12c |
| MARASCHINO CHERRIES | | BOT | 10c |
| COCKTAIL CHERRIES | | BOT | 19c |
| A & P CROSBY CORN | | 2 NO. 2 CANS | 25c |
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| A & P PEARS | | 2 LARGE CANS | 35c |
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| LIFEBUOY SOAP | | 3 CAKES | 17c |
| N. B. C. | PREMIUM FLAKES | PKG. | 17c |
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## Governor Lehman Deplores Defeat of Child Labor Law

Following an acrimonious debate of more than three hours, the Assembly of the New York Legislature defeated the resolution for ratifying the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution. The amendment had been ratified by the Senate.

Governor Lehman, who had urged favorable action on the amendment, regretted the adverse vote of the Assembly, said: "I am deeply disappointed at the defeat of the resolution to ratify the Child Labor Amendment. I regret that the resolution did not receive in the Assembly the support of the members of the two parties which it received in the State Senate. Had it done so, it would, of course, have been early ratified. The record speaks for itself. The people of this State will form their own judgment on that record."

### OREGON LUMBER WORKERS FAVOR THIRTY-HOUR WEEK

The Columbia River District Council of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union, in session in Portland, Oregon, adopted a resolution favoring the six-hour day and the 30-hour week, with no reduction in daily pay, as a positive remedy for the wholesale unemployment due to the installation of high-speed machinery.





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Get estimates, and make that needed extra room a reality in your home this winter.

**AUGUSTA LUMBER CO.**

"The Department Store for Building"


## Unjust Sales Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

Pattengall argued in favor of both the sales tax and the income tax, contending that despite efforts towards economy, new funds would be needed for old age pensions, schools and other purposes.

Opposition to the measure was voiced by Col. Henri Benoit of Portland, in behalf, of merchants of that city. He contended that under any sales tax the levy of "fractional sales" would cost the consumer more than two per cent. Col. Benoit further argued that a burden of the tax would fall upon those who could least afford it, and this would create an additional burden.

There were times during the hearing, when accusations were made against the opposition of "packing" the hearing. In defense it was said the large number present at the hearing, some of whom represented many thousands of wage earners, demonstrated the interest manifested in the proposed law, and who came to Augusta to register a solemn protest against its adoption.

## Would Eliminate Huge Profits at Workers' Expense

Clarence R. Burgess, secretary and legislative agent for the Maine State Federation of Labor, said in part:

"Labor views with feelings of deep apprehension the attempt of the advocates of sales tax legislation to transfer the burden of taxation from the wealth of the nation to the masses of the people. We have consistently held that sales tax legislation is un-American and inconsistent with our Democratic form of government. The issue is clearly drawn. The question is, shall the wealth of the nation bear its proper share of the tax burden or shall it be transferred through the enactment of the sales tax to the homes, the fire-sides, the earnings and the lives of the poor? The masses of the people, many of whom are forced to forego the bare necessities of life, can not stand added hardship.

"Labor has borne the brunt of a six-year depression and at the present time it is undergoing continued hardship and suffering. During all this period it has manifested self-possession and self-restraint which have challenged the admiration of its many friends. Whatever argument is offered in support of sales tax legislation during periods of reasonable prosperity, cannot apply now. The existing economic situation adds to the strength of argument against the imposition of such taxation. The sales tax would fall more heavily upon the masses of the people who are now suffering from unemployment than upon any other group of our citizens. To add a sales tax to the reduction of wages which have been imposed upon wage earners during the last four years would mean addition to the misery, woe and want which now prevails throughout the state.

### Would Delay Return of Prosperity

"How can men and women who are unable to buy the bare necessities of life be expected to pay a sales tax upon the limited merchandise which they are able to buy? To impose a sales tax upon the necessities of life would mean that the masses who are now purchasing only a limited amount would be compelled to buy still less. It is a form of taxation which is contrary to the basis upon which we have always built our tax structure, namely, to relieve those who are less able and collect from those who are best able to pay. Such a tax will tend to delay a return to prosperity. It will further destroy the very limited buying power now possessed by the masses of the people. It will prevent the sale of manufactured goods and it will mean less food, warmth and clothing for thousands of men, women and children.

"In the end, it falls more heavily on people whose incomes are so small that they spend all of it for the necessities of life produced by the owners of our industrial system, which they, in turn, must sell if we are to have any semblance of prosperity.

"Since the general tendency of the sales tax would be to increase the prices of commodities purchased by consumers, namely workers who have already undergone drastic wage cuts and not as much as the consumption expenditures absorb a larger part of their income, than do the consumption expenditures of the higher paid group. The effect of the tax would be to come a sales tax would bear more heavily on the workers than upon those of the higher income classes.

"As I work, and for the workers, I therefore protest and wish to go on record as opposed to any type of taxation that would tend to increase the burden of the already distressed and charity-receiving masses who do the work for our state and nation."

## Bills Introduced in 88th Legislature of Interest to Labor

Arguments offered by representatives of the State Federation of Labor, Central bodies and local unions, who spoke in favor or recorded their organizations in favor of the State Fund Workmen's Compensation bill before the Committee on Judiciary at the State House on March 4th, were as follows:

Workmen's Compensation Insurance was created in Maine to assure workers who are injured or killed, and their dependents, a decent standard of compensation.

The Act was never intended to be a vehicle through which a privileged few should derive an unfair profit out of the injuries, sufferings and privations of workers injured in industry.

The State Federation of Labor, speaking for the organized workers, and expressing the opinion of all the workers in the state, hopes for the enactment of the State Fund measure as a means of eventually eliminating profit-making insurance companies from the Act.

A State Fund would mean greater coverage for the workers at less expense for the employer, with no high pressure insurance trouble-makers interfering to call the injured worker a malingerer.

A State Fund will prevent the wholesale discharge of workers who are compelled to submit to a physical examination and also allow hundreds of elderly workers to continue in employment.

A State Fund will take the profit out of human misery and at the same time take an unnecessary expense from industry's shoulders and remove a perpetual cause of industrial unrest arising from the normal employer-employee relationship.

The hazards of unemployment are now insurable under a system of social insurance, in which no private insurance company capitalizes on human deprivation and misery. Compensation for industrial injury and disease should long ago have been placed under a similar non-profit system.

The original framers of the Act never believed that the blind, crippled, diseased and hollow-chested consumptives should be the defenseless pawns in an unconscionable racket-ering in human distress.

Several states have created state compensation insurance funds. These state funds have been made the exclusive carriers of compensation insurance in seven states.

The State Fund bill should not be considered entirely in the terms of money, but in the terms of human suffering and hardship in the lives of hundreds of workers injured in the pursuit of their occupation.

Security for the injured worker and his employer, economy of administration and inclusiveness of coverage are advantages of State Fund insurance under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

## Compulsory Auto Insurance Leads to Racketeering

Arguments against enactment of a compulsory automobile insurance law in the State of Maine were strongly presented before the Committee on Judiciary at a hearing held March 3rd.

Speaking for the Association of Insurance Agents, Charles Nelson said it "disregards the primary consideration of saving lives" and referring to the administration of the law in Massachusetts, said: "Experience with the law in that State has shown that it leads to racketeering and fraud in the promotion of claims."

Clarence R. Burgess, legislative agent for the Maine State Federation of Labor, said Labor is opposed to the bill because of an added burden to people of small means, many of whom would be deprived of driving automobiles because of this added cost.

Those who favored the bill argued from the standpoint of compensation for those who were maimed and killed by reckless and drunken drivers, but agreed the proposed act did not constitute a safety measure.

## Pick-Clock Bill Has Good Chance of Enactment

Organizer George Jabor of the United Textile Workers of America, and Frank C. McDonald, representing the Maine State Federation of Labor, and two unidentified textile workers, put up strong arguments for the bill which provides for the installation of pick clocks on textile looms, at the hearing before the Committee on Labor, held last Tuesday.

Questioning Organizer Jabor's sincerity because he refused to divulge the names of two employes who testified, giving as a reason fear that those might be discharged if it were known they favored the bill, a representative of the Associated Industries said "the time has gone by when any employer in Maine would punish any worker for expressing his opinion on any measure."

The fact that the Associated Industries only mildly opposed the bill on the ground that "many cotton mills already have pick-clocks, and would not return to the old system," gives reason to believe that the bill will be reported favorably and become a law.

## Trainmen's Full-Crew Bill is A Real Necessity

William B. Hallett, Portland attorney, representing the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, told members of the Public Utilities Committee at the hearing at the State House last Wednesday, that the full train crew bill was presented as a safety measure, and that its importance is made more manifest at this time of increasing patronage of the roads.

Representatives of the railroads, in opposing the bill, said its passage would impair the credit and endanger the solvency of some of the roads.

Following is a complete list of bills introduced in the 88th Legislature of particular interest to Labor:

An Act creating a State Workmen's Compensation Fund, Senate Paper 280, presented by Mr. Corrigan of Washington. Committee on Judiciary.

An Act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, Senate Paper 231, presented by Mr. Corrigan, of Washington. Committee on Judiciary.

An Act to Define and Limit the Jurisdiction of Courts sitting in Equity and for other purposes; House Paper 1292, presented by Mr. Sleeper of Rockland. Committee on Legal Affairs.

An Act relating to State Arbitration Board Salary, L. D 373, presented by Mr. Buker of Bath. Committee on Salaries and Fees.

An Act to protect the rights of employes to organize and bargain collectively and creating a labor relations board. House Paper 1293, presented by Mr. Lee of Rumford. Committee on Legal Affairs.

An Act relating to weekly payment of wages, House Paper 1291, presented by Mr. Bruce of Belfast. Committee on Labor.

An Act licensing steam engineers and firemen, House Paper 1294, presented by Mr. Chase of Baring. Committee on Legal Affairs.

An Act relating to civil service examination of employes under the State Liquor Commission, Senate Paper 266, presented by Mr. MacKinnon of Oxford. Committee on Judiciary.

An Act providing that employers of four or more shall be subject to the Unemployment Insurance Law, Senate Paper 278, presented by Mr. MacKinnon of Oxford. Committee on Judiciary.

An Act relating to Hospital Liens, Senate Paper 282, presented by Miss Martin of Penobscot. Committee on Judiciary.

An Act to Trustee Process, reduced from $20 to $12. H. P. 1056, presented by Mr. Wyman of Benton. Committee on Judiciary.

An Act to permit Sunday Moving Pictures, House Paper 1297, presented by Mr. Smith of Westbrook. Committee on Legal Affairs.

An Act to guarantee a minimum educational program and to provide for the equalization of educational opportunity for the youth of the State of Maine, L. D. 112, presented by Mr. Gyger of Cumberland. Committee on Education.

An Act providing one day's rest in seven. House Paper 1522, presented by Mr. Chase of Baring. Committee on Labor.

An Act regulating the sale of convict-made goods. House Paper 1528, presented by Mr. Emery of Bucksport. Committee on Legal Affairs.

An Act requiring the installation of pick-clocks in textile mills. H. P. 1523, presented by Mr. Lord of Brunswick. Committee on Labor.

An Act regulating rate of wages on State work. House Paper 1621, presented by Senator Wyman of Benton. Committee on Labor.

An Act requiring owners of motor vehicles to furnish security, compulsory automobile insurance. L. D. 496, presented by Senator Worthen of Penobscot. Committee on Judiciary.

Tax Measures—L. D. 62, presented by Mr. Donahue of Biddeford. L. D. 83, presented by Mr. Newton of Readfield. L. D. 261, presented by Mr. McClinchy of Portland. Committee on Taxation.




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# The Labor News

Official Newspaper of the
MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR
Published Monthly by
THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR
Under Supervision of Chelsea A. Waldron, Frank C. McDonald, Clarence R. Burgess, B. J. Doraky, Committee.
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An Exponent of a Square Deal for Both Sides. Constructive in Policy. Independent in Politics.

Subscription, One Year 50 Cents. Price per Copy, 5 Cents

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MARCH, 1937

## The Man on the Street

**What Does He Think of the Propaganda Launched By Opponents of the President's Program to Retire Superannuated Judges?—Invariably, He Stands by the President 100 Per Cent.**

Pure and unadulterated propaganda—the same brand, and launched by the same aggregation of newspapers and magazines with their professional columnists, which **helped** to re-elect President Roosevelt last Fall—is again flooding the country—all for the purpose of poisoning the mind of "the man on the street".

But, what does he think of all this? It would be greatly surprising to these prejudiced and imaginative pencil-pushers to know how little stock "the man in the street" takes in their stuff.

Gannett and his cohorts have launched a campaign which, from a slanderous standpoint, even goes far beyond that which the subsidized press attempted last Fall. It is scurrilous in the extreme, and as for misrepresentation, this is practised to the limit.

Ask "the man on the street" as to what he thinks of this aggregation of propagandists. He may not be able to quote statistics, and explain his reasons for branding all this newspaper trash as abominable, but he will tell you he feels certain it is for no good purpose, and makes this assertion on the ground that nearly all the opposition is moved by large employers, and seconded by hide-bound lawyers and others who are unfriendly to progressive legislation.

While not thoroughly conversant with details, they are aware of the fact that so-called "packing" of the courts has been time and again practised by Republican Presidents since the early days of the Civil War. They also know that the late Presidents Roosevelt and Taft suggested means for revamping the United States Supreme Court, and are also aware that Justice McReynolds—who is numbered among the majority of judges who knocked to smithereens practically all legislation intended to bring about return of national prosperity—advocated a change while he was Attorney-General.

Among the "men on the street" are nearly ten millions who are still unemployed, or working part-time, and three more millions who are dependent on $15 or $16 a week which they receive from employment on WPA and PWA projects.

You can't make these believe that President Roosevelt, in his efforts to revamp the Supreme Court, is doing so in the hope of being proclaimed dictator, and neither can newspaper propaganda make them believe that he isn't consistently working for their best interests.

While unable to explain their ideas with flowing words, they do know, however, there isn't a ghost of a chance of their securing jobs so long as a majority of the members of the Supreme Court protect chiseling manufacturers in the operation of their plants on a long weekly hour basis, by declaring unconstitutional all legislation aimed to remedy this evil.

Such propaganda as is being launched at present, might have been effective years ago, but that was before working people had suffered the pangs caused by the depression, which threw more than 15 millions of these out of work and forced them to seek relief.

There was food for thought, and it resulted in an awakening that was best exemplified at last Fall's election, and which is further demonstrated in the new spirit manifested by millions of workers who are sparing no means in their efforts to secure a larger share of the profits of industry.

Add these millions to the unemployed, and other millions who, on general principles, look to the President as their good and consistent friend, and you have a phalanx that for political strength, confidence and sincerity, should make Senators and Representatives in Congress who wobble on the President's proposal, feel their political future is at stake unless they give him their support in this most important and sensible piece of legislation.

What manner or means have propagandists to determine as to how "the man on the street" feels regarding the President's proposal? Do any of them take the trouble to interview and by this means acquire actual knowledge as to what he thinks? They are in no position to secure knowledge as to how the proposal is discussed in the meeting room, and for that matter, make no effort to secure this information. Their line of stuff, for which they receive immense incomes, is purely imaginative, and to millions of people reached through metropolitan newspapers and magazines, hopes are entertained their poisonous articles will have the desired effect.

In this, they have "another think". They tried this method last Fall, and failed miserably. "The man on the street" had little to say, but did a lot of thinking, and did his turn in the election booth.

The present line of propaganda is to induce him to enter a protest against the President's proposal to Senators and Representatives. Of course, these protests will be forwarded in large numbers, but not from "the man in the street," who is wise to their propaganda schemes. Instead, protests will come from subdued workers, and that class who, for political or other reasons, are of biased minds, and consequently unable to see things in a broadminded way.

It's "the man on the street" who has to be taken into consideration now, as was the case last Fall. He's the man who counts on election day.

## The President Needs More Votes in the Senate

**Is Certain His Measure to Reform Judiciary Will Pass House But the Senate is Sticking Point.**

President Roosevelt, notwithstanding leaders of Labor in Washington feel confident he will win, needs more votes in the Senate for his Court reform plan. It is evident the President is of that same opinion, and is "going to the country" to get them.

This was evidenced last week when, on the fourth anniversary of his initial inauguration as President, he fired his first shot and made his principal plea to the people last Tuesday evening in a nation-wide radio hook-up.

That the House is prepared to support the President, is certain, but not so with the Senate, where there is considerable division of opinion among liberals, and this is regarded as the sticking point. At the present moment it looks like any man's game, with the President's supporters slowly gaining ground.

In his "going to the country" for assistance in carrying out his judicial program, the President spoke straight from the shoulder. He compared conditions of four years ago, when the nation was in the great banking crisis, and when, soon after, with the authority of Congress, he asked the nation to turn over all of its privately held gold, dollar for dollar, to the government. "Today's recovery," he said, "proves how right that policy was."

"But when, almost two years later, it came before the Supreme Court, its constitutionality was upheld only by a five-to-four vote. The change of one vote would have thrown all the affairs of this great nation back into hopeless chaos. In effect, four justices ruled that the right under a private contract to exact a pound of flesh was more sacred than the main objectives of the Constitution to establish an enduring nation.

**"In 1933," the President said, "you and I knew that we must never let our economic system get completely out of joint again—that we could not afford to take the risk of another great depression.**

"We also became convinced that the only way to avoid a repetition of those dark days was to have a government with power to prevent and to cure the abuses and the inequalities which had thrown that system out of joint.

"We then began a program of remedying those abuses and inequalities—to give balance and stability to our economic system—to make it bomb-proof against the causes of 1929.

"Today we are only part-way through that program—and recovery is speeding up to a point where the dangers of 1929 are again becoming possible, not this week or month perhaps, but within a year or two.

"National laws are needed to complete that program. Individual or local or state effort alone cannot protect us in 1937 any better than 10 years ago.

"We have, therefore, reached the point as a nation where we must take action to save the Constitution from the court and the court from itself. We must find a way to take an appeal from the Supreme Court to the Constitution itself. We want a Supreme Court which will do justice under the Constitution—not over it. In our courts we want a government of laws and not of men.

"Like all lawyers, like all Americans, I regret the necessity of this controversy. But the welfare of the United States, and indeed of the Constitution itself, is what we all must think about first. Our difficulty with the court today rises not from the court as an institution, but from human beings within it. But we cannot yield our constitutional destiny to the personal judgment of a few men who, being fearful of the future, would deny us the necessary means of dealing with the present.

"This plan of mine is no attack on the court; it seeks to restore the court to its rightful and historic place in our system of constitutional government and to have it resume its high task of building anew on the Constitution 'a system of living law'.

The President delivered his half-hour "fireside chat" in a cool, dispassionate manner. His delivery was reminiscent of those long days when he was planning to take the nation out of the slough of despondency. His voice resembled that of a lawyer pleading in court.

"You who know me," he said in conclusion, with a calm gravity, "will accept my solemn assurance that a world in which democracy is under attack I seek to make American democracy succeed.

"You and I will do our part."

## Industrial Statesmanship in Steel Production

**John L. Lewis' Reference to Myron C. Taylor as "Industrial Statesman," Gives Hope for Future Relations Between Capital and Labor in This Industry.**

In explaining the near miracle of how the biggest subsidiary of the U. S. Steel Corporation came to sign an agreement with an "outside union," John L. Lewis said that much of the result was due to the "industrial statesmanship" of Myron C. Taylor. Taylor was not present at the action conferences between the CIO and the Carnegie-Illinois; but evidently, as chairman of the board of U. S. Steel, he cleared the way for them.

It is to be hoped the same grade of industrial statesmanship will be found in high places in other corporations. Heaven knows there is need for it.

For Lewis used the right words, industrial statesmanship. It has been found in labor unions for many years; but seldom indeed has it manifested itself in management—and never before in steel. Carnegie was a potent fighter; but all his statesmanship was in the essays he wrote for magazines; not in his guidance of his companies. Frick was a ruthless bandit, whose one redeeming trait was courage. Gary was a pompous false front. If Taylor is a statesman—and Lewis ought to know—he is the first in his industry.

Now let anyone make the blunder of thinking that the tasks of industrial statesmanship are petty things, of little moment. More people today are directly dependent on steel for a living than the whole population of the United States when Washington was inaugurated. The Carnegie-Illinois alone employs more men than were gathered either at Waterloo or at Gettysburg; and many corporations have paid more money in a year in dividends than the $10,848,749 which was the total income of the United States government in the year 1800.

Let us have more industrial statesmanship—in more and higher places. We need it.

## Court Stages "Sit-Down" Strike on Three Labor Cases

**Expected Decisions in Washington Minimum Wage Law, Wagner Labor Relations Act and New York Minimum Wage Law on March 1, Still in Cold Storage.**

The Supreme Court is staging a sit-down strike on the New Deal.

Three measures of great importance have been argued before the Supreme Court, and decisions on all of them were expected. They are the minimum wage law of the state of Washington, the Wagner Labor Relations Act, and a decision on whether to grant a rehearing of the New York minimum wage law. Decisions on all three, as was said, were expected when the Court convened on March 1. But the Court did not so much as mention one of them.

The Washington minimum wage law puts the Supreme Court in a rather serious dilemma. If it stands by its own 5-to-4 decision on the New York minimum wage law, it will rule out the Washington statute which is almost the same. That would give President Roosevelt all the ammunition he needs for his campaign to reform the Court. But if the Court goes 5-to-4 the other way, it will be so plainly eating its own words that the lunch just couldn't be pleasant.

The 5-to4 decision on March 1 invalidating the gold clause in a contract merely repeats what the Court said two years ago in a similar case.

Major George L. Berry, president of Labor's Non-Partisan League, announces that the League will start an intensive drive for the President's judicial reform.

National sentiment is rapidly crystalizing in support of the President's proposals," Major Berry said to newspaper men. "He has already the full support of 5,500,000 members of organized labor. The reaction the League is getting from its avowed support of championship of this measure is remarkable."

### OF TWO GOOD THINGS, CHOOSE BOTH.

Judson King, probably America's greatest pamphleteer, is out with a brochure entitled "The Mathematics of Democracy," in which he gives very strong support to President Roosevelt's proposals for reform of the Federal courts. Here are some of those mathematics:

"Five men on the Supreme Court can now block any law passed by a majority of the 531 members of Congress.

"Thirty-three Senators can now block the submission of an amendment to the Constitution.

"Representatives of 2,895,237 people, in the 13 smallest states, or less than 2.4 per cent of the 122,775,000 population of the United States, can block the adoption of an amendment if submitted."

These figures are absolutely correct. They are also rather staggering. But Mr. King presents a course of action which will overcome even these obstacles.

President Roosevelt's plan, Mr. King states, is to freshen the personnel and reform certain procedures of the Federal judiciary system so as to get necessary reforms now.

The liberals in Congress and out who object to the President's plan want an amendment to take away from the Federal courts legislative powers which they never should have assumed.

"Since both these reforms are necessary," says Mr. King, "why not have both?"

Well, why not? It is the sensible way. Why not take it?

## Will Merger of Shoe Unions Warrant Peace in Industry?

**With Three Independents Operating in New England States, Turmoil Marked History of Industry for Several Years.**

Since the breach occurred which eventually caused more than three-fourths of the organized shoe workers to separate into three distinct independent unions, the shoe industry in New England has been in a veritable turmoil.

For more than 25 years, while the industry for the most part was operating under union label contracts with the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, strikes were almost unknown, except those inaugurated by employes in unorganized factories, or in those that were partly organized by independent factions.

When the breach occurred, which brought about the cancellation of union label contracts with the B. & S. W. U., it was estimated more than 30,000 members employed in all the largest shoe factories in New England left the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union and within a year had become affiliated with three separate organizations.

For several years, there was hardly a week passed but what strikes were called by one or more of the three unions. The industry was in a turmoil, and as a result owners moved their plants to Maine, New Hampshire and other New England cities, where it was hoped production could be carried on not only at less labor cost, but without interruption.

This worked to a nicety for a while, or until employes became organized in these new centers, and when both costs and interrupted production again became serious problems.

Repeated efforts made to amalgamate the three independent unions by officials who, from the start, realized that ... progress could be made just so long as the ... was kept in a divided condition.

The nearest to accomplishing this task occurred two years ago when, at a conference of delegates representing the three organizations, the vote to consolidate was reported as very close.

Now, with the C. I. O. in the field, further efforts along this line are being made, and at a conference held in Pittsburgh recently, a program was outlined not only to bring about consolidation, but to conduct a membership drive that will cover all shoe centers in the country.

In the meantime, reports are that the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union is making excellent progress in unorganized centers, and that with these two forces actively engaged, good prospects for not only establishing peace in the industry but to thoroughly bring about its organization and stability, are in sight.

## Shall We Have Another NRA?

**Plans Outlined for Legislation by President and Secretary of Labor Indicate This is to Be Part of Administration's Program at Present Congress Session.**

Fears on the part of President Roosevelt's opponents expressed during the election campaign, and since, that he had in mind the resurrection of NRA, may come to pass.

This is indicated from press reports, these to the effect that the President and Secretary Perkins are engaged in drafting a tentative bill, which not only provides for minimum wages and maximum working hours, but fair trade practices and control, and other features similar to those which were contained in the National Recovery Act.

The bill, it is said, while now in the conference stage, is making steady progress, and may be ready for presentation to Congress within a few weeks.

Present at conferences, according to the report emanating from the White House, are heads of governmental departments, business leaders and officials of Labor organizations and other groups, from whom it is hoped to secure such assistance as will make the bill one that will warrant support from all groups.

While its object has not been specifically outlined, it is surmised, of course, that the bill's principal purpose is to create jobs through the shortening of working hours, and at the same time fix wages that will not decrease the present purchasing power.

Early in the year, it became apparent that the Government was planning to make drastic restrictions on WPA and PWA projects as a means for reducing the great cost incident to these plans. How to do this without increasing the unemployed rolls, was found impossible; hence, the decision to put into operation a plan whereby millions of people now dependent on the Government for employment can be transferred to private industry.

Proper precautions, of course, are being taken in drafting the bill to have it conform with Constitutional law, although a statement ascribed to Secretary Perkins was to the effect that "it mattered little whether its presentation is made at this time or followed action on the proposed reorganization of the judiciary".

According to Secretary Perkins, ample time will be taken in drafting the proposed legislation. At present, it serves as a basis for discussion and undergoes some change at every conference, and is being formulated as an expression of what is believed and known to be desirable, without regard to legal or constitutional hazards.

Modern Canutes who would hold back the tide of social change fail to realise the rising tide springs from the fundamental yearnings of men for more abundant living.—Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam.

## Wisconsin Univ. Students Are Told Advertising Racket

"Advertising Age," in its current issue, says Wisconsin University students are told that advertisers are putting pressure on the consumer to buy merchandise he doesn't need and can't afford.

"Books which ridicule advertising are held up by professors as authoritative material on business practice," the article states, "and the Consumers' Research, Inc., which is showing up fake advertising schemes launched by high-powered and wealthy corporations, is recommended to Wisconsin students as authoritative."

That which members of Wisconsin University had in mind when deciding to "show up" fake advertising schemes was undoubtedly a public statement in a large non-union cigarette company's advertisement, which was released to daily newspapers and magazines by Martinelli, the great Metropolitan Opera tenor and radio entertainer, which appeared in different issue of a leading magazine.

The tenor, who, like most great artists, is temperamental, was entertaining a quartet of newly-acquired admirers. As they sat down, the tenor's admirers all proceeded to light widely advertised non-union brands of cigarettes, one of which has recently been highly recommended by Martinelli as affording relief from indigestion and especially free from harm to the throat.

"My God!" exclaimed the celebrated tenor to his admirers, "you must not smoke in my presence, as this has a very serious effect on my throat."

"But, Signor," said one of the group, "this particular brand I am smoking is in accordance with your recommendation which I read in a statement over your signature in a newspaper advertisement."

"There must be some mistake," Martinelli said, "as I have never smoked a cigarette in my life."

If this story is true, and there isn't any doubt as to this, can anyone question the activities of those who are interested in the people as a whole, and making them acquainted with the millions of dollars expended for fake advertising?

Good, clean, truthful advertising has been a most important factor in making this nation the greatest and most prosperous in the world. If, however, cleverness and misrepresentation, prompted by greed and lust for gold, are to be substituted for cleanliness and truthfulness, that which has been considered resourceful in helping to make the nation prosperous is bound to prove of little value in the future.

## Union Label Identifies Goods and Services

By CHARLES O'DONNELL
President Union Label Section, Boston Central Labor Union

Labor has many tools it can use effectively in building a land free from the curse of unemployment and exploitation. Important among these is the Union Label identifying goods and services as having been made or performed under sanitary conditions and for wages commensurate with American standards of living.

Labor is not only a producer—it is also a consumer, collectively the most powerful consumer in America. And it is this consuming power that we of the Union Label Section wish to invoke in making general, and even improving, the working conditions and wages that obtain for members of organized Labor today.

To do this successfully, we need the aid and cooperation of every member of the trade union movement.

Do not buy any goods that carry no Union Label. Do not buy in stores that display no union card. Refuse to be served by waiters, bartenders, milk drivers and similar employes who do not wear a union button.

And even that is not enough. Get others to do likewise. Talk to members of your family and your friends about the implications of the union insignia. People will not refuse to patronize employers whose workers are decently paid, as against employers who are constantly applying pressure to non-union workers in an effort to get more for less. Help to acquaint them with the meaning of the union label.

That is the aid that we of the Union Label Section are soliciting. To some extent, we are getting it, but we want more and more, to a far greater degree and by many more unionists.

Concerted action by members of organized labor in the Union Label campaign can obtain for the workers of our country employment for all, under sanitary conditions and decent hours and wages. Employers who have fought all attempts at unionism would be forced to their knees by the consumer power of organized labor. Admit unionism or go out of business.

We appeal to all trade unionists to do their share, and, given this support, we will conquer under the sign of the Union Label.

## Bldg. and Lumber Jurisdiction Fight Settled by A. F. L.

A peculiar jurisdiction problem was brought to the attention of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor at its quarterly meeting by officials representing the Central Labor Council of Tacoma, Wash.

The Sawmill and Timber Workers' unions in the Tacoma area are affiliated with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. The Tacoma locals of the Carpenters Brotherhood are affiliated with the Tacoma Building Trades and Central Labor Council. But in some instances, it was reported, members of the Sawmill and Timber Workers' unions have done construction work on buildings which ordinarily comes under the jurisdiction of the Carpenters Brotherhood locals.

It was pointed out that the wage rates of the Sawmill and Timber Workers are less than the wage rate of skilled carpenters. The question was whether the building construction work done by members of the Sawmill and Timber Workers' unions should come under the jurisdiction of the Tacoma Building Trades. The Executive Council decided in favor of the Building Trades.

# NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE STANDS BY PRESIDENT ON JUDICIAL PROGRAM

(Continued from Page 1)

...as will of the great silent masses of ...citizens be still overlooked. When it comes to noise, the reactionaries can put on as good a demonstration as anyone, but the will of the silent people is not expressed in noise. The Republicans found that out last November and I do not think that there are many members of Congress who are fooled by the clamor raised by minority groups on this question of judicial usurpation. Yet it is important that the common people of the nation make sure that their voice is heard, and to that end I feel that groups such as yours can provide opportunity for the rank and file to express their sentiments on this fundamental issue.

**Social Control Necessary**

The vast majority of the people today realize this, and they know what a great deal of social control is necessary to keep the mechanisms of production and distribution functioning. President Roosevelt during the past four years courageously launched the Federal government upon a program designed to stimulate the forces of economic recovery and to restore harmony to the economic system which had been allowed to run itself into the ditch under the do-nothing administrations which had gone before him. On three different occasions the American people have expressed their approval of the President's general program at the ballot box. They know that government is the only instrumentality which can bring order out of the chaos produced by the laissez-faire doctrine. They know that the Federal government is the only agency which can solve the pressing problems of our day and generation.

"But although the people who sense the problems that face them today realize this, the councils of the older generation schooled in the thought of a by-gone day do not. I know that there are some men past the age of seventy who are mentally still young and vigorous, but they are the exception and not the rule. When a man passes the age of seventy, the chances are that he has lost the sympathetic understanding of the present time and the vital appreciation of its problems that is absolutely essential in the equipment of a judge.

**Outmoded Philosophy**

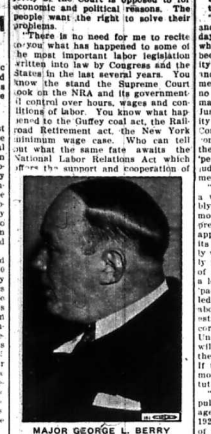
"When a majority of the highest court in the land, one of the three coordinate branches of the Federal government, stubbornly cling to an outmoded philosophy which the people of the country have emphatically renounced, it is a threat to a functioning democracy. These judges are the time clocks of our courts. Their social philosophy has been repudiated by a new generation, but they hang on to their jobs by virtue of a life tenure in office provided by the Constitution and a long life.

"Six of the justices of the United States Supreme Court are over 70 years of age and five of them are very near or over 75. Not one of them is under the age of 60 yet the active work and struggle in this nation is carried on by men and women between the ages of 20 and 40. Society generally recognizes the merit of retirement in old age. Many universities require their teachers to retire at 65 to 70. Most corporations retire their executives in their sixties and retire their workers, without pensions, between 40 and 50. There seems to be little objection to applying the same principle to the lower Federal courts. Why not apply it to the Supreme Court?

**A Living Instrument**

"The answer is that there are some people who fear that to do so will change the temper of the Court's opinions. And I am here to state that I for one, hope so. I am convinced that the American people as a whole share the same hope. We want a Court that is in touch with the problems of this present generation, a Court that will recognize that the Constitution is a living instrument, a Court that will stop using the Constitution as a means of preventing the legislative and executive branches of the government from enacting legislation which a majority of the Court is opposed to for economic and political reasons. The people want the right to solve their problems.

"There is no need for me to recite to you what has happened to some of the most important labor legislation written into law by Congress and the States in the last several years. You know the stand the Supreme Court took on the NRA and its government control over hours, wages and conditions of labor. You know what happened to the Guffey coal act, the Railroad Retirement act, the New York minimum wage case. We can tell out what the same fate awaits the National Labor Relations Act which offers the support and cooperation of



MAJOR GEORGE L. BERRY

the Federal government to workers who want to avail themselves of their right to independent organization and collective bargaining." What will the 'court do to the Social Security Act."

**Interested in Results—Not Theories**

"The American people are not fundamentally interested in theories. They are interested in results. The collapse of democratic governments in other countries should serve as a warning to those who really believe in that form of government. These governments were discarded because they were impotent. If a majority of the Court is permitted to throttle the legislative branch of the government and thus to block all effective means of meeting the grave economic problems of today, it can happen here. Conscientious and intelligent statesmanship demands that we find ways and means to make our form of government work so that it can solve the problems of minimum wages, collective bargaining, social security, unemployment insurance, soil erosion, unemployment relief, housing, flood prevention and the conservation of our natural resources. As long as a majority of the Court stands athwart the will of the people and obstructs the working of democratic government, it is inviting the breakdown of our economic system and the destruction of our form of government by revolution.

"The stalling of our government by judicial fiat in recent years is not a defect in the Constitution. It is a defect in the Supreme Court. We do not need to amend the Constitution. It did not enact any particular economic system. Justice Holmes was once compelled to remark sarcastically that the Fourteenth Amendment did not enact Mr. Spencer's 'Social Statics.' I might add, Socialism into the Constitution. The Constitution is a flexible document prepared by men with a great vision who foresaw the need for allowing each generation the right to solve its own specific social problems. Edmund Randolph, who wrote the first and basic draft of the document explained in the opening statement of his manuscript that it was his purpose 'to insert essential principles only, lest the operations of government should be clogged, by rendering those provisions permanent and unalterable which ought to be accommodated to times and events.'

**"The need today is not to amend the Constitution, but rather to amend the Supreme Court. The Court is both out of touch with the problems of twentieth century America and out of harmony with the Constitution, in its exercise of the judicial veto it has taken unto itself powers which it was never intended to have by the founders of our constitutional government.**

"Article 3 of the Constitution specifically provides that 'all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in the Congress of the United States.' The men who framed that document never dreamed that legislative measures of Congress would be undone by judicial veto. Proposals to give the Supreme Court even a limited veto over legislation were overwhelmingly rejected by the Constitutional Convention on four separate occasions.

"Thomas Jefferson spoke plainly when he said, 'It has long been my opinion, and I have never shrunk from its expression, that the germ of dissolution of our Federal Government is in the judiciary—the irresponsible body working like gravity by day and by night, gaining a little today and gaining a little tomorrow, and advancing its noiseless step like a thief over the field of jurisdiction until all shall be usurped.'

"Speaking at Madison Square Garden as an independent candidate for President in 1924 upon this great issue of judicial usurpation my father had this to say in part: 'Always these decisions of the Court are on the side of the wealthy and powerful and against the poor and weak whom it is the policy of the law making branch of the Government to assist by enlightened and humanitarian legislation.

"'Even when we have gone through the difficult and expensive process of amending the Constitution in a particular respect, as in the case of the income tax, the amendment finally adopted, as in that case, has been interpreted by a majority of the court entirely opposite to the intention of Congress.

"'Now it is obvious that a remedy for this condition must be found. No Government can long survive if through the medium of a king a court or any other sovereign power the will of the people represented in the law making branch of their government can be arbitrarily and finally defeated.'

**"When the Court again asserted its alleged power to declare the acts of Congress unconstitutional, it was in the Dred Scott case fifty years after Marbury v. Madison. It took four and a half years of Civil War to settle the issue which the Dred Scott decision threw into the faces of the American people. Later when the Court tried to assert this doctrine of judicial veto in the Legal Tender cases, Senator Dr. Scott complained two new justices to the Court, and the decision was reversed.**

"I believe in a government of laws and not of men, and all of us here today respect the constitution under which our democratic government has been established. But when the validity of our laws is subject to the whim and caprice of five out of nine fallible men, who feel they are responsible to no one but themselves, and when a majority of the Court is scolded by Justice Stone, joined by other minority members equally devoted to the Constitution, of adopting a 'tortured construction of the Constitution' for the sake of reading into it their own 'personal economic predilection,' the personal economic predilection of a judicial veto becomes a government of men and not one of law.

"President Roosevelt has proposed a way in which Congress can possibly secure from the Supreme Court a more sympathetic understanding of present day problems and a greater appreciation of the purposes behind its legislation. It is a method entirely within the Constitution and definitely in keeping with the aims and spirit of democratic government. There is a lot of idle talk about the danger of 'packing' the Court, but do not be misled by a red herring. Let us be frank about this matter. The vested interests have for years been putting their corporation lawyers on the bench. Under our form of government the will of the majority of the people, not the special interests, should prevail. If the majority of the people want a modern interpretation of the Constitution, they should have it.

"Chief Justice Taft suggested compulsory retirement of judges at the age of 70. Chief Justice Hughes in 1928 suggested compulsory retirement of judges at the age of 75. The President's proposal does not call for compulsory retirement. It makes no attempt to disturb the judge's right to life tenure and constitutes no threat upon his independence. It merely makes it possible for a judge to retire with full pay at the age of 70 if he wants to. If he does not retire, the President would have the power to appoint his successor at any time after he reaches retirement age. There is nothing unreasonable in that proposal.

"If Harding or Coolidge or Hoover had made such a proposal, the same reactionaries who are now protesting so violently would probably applaud his constructive statesmanship. But they now claim that President Roosevelt has an evil purpose in mind when they impugn his motives in this question just as they have always done when he has acted against their interests for the good of the people.

"The proposed reform is long overdue. It is unfortunate that it was not carried through many years ago before the present critical situation arose. But the acuteness of the present situation is all the stronger reason for immediate action.

**"This is not a struggle between the President and the Court; it is a struggle between the representatives of the people responsible to them and a small group of justices who have lost touch with the problems of the people, are responsible to them for their tenure of office, and have not the grace to step aside and let the present generation govern itself.**

"Those who are opposing the President's proposal rise to sanctimonious heights and point shame upon any attack directed against the Supreme Court. The men who wrote the Constitution never intended the Supreme Court to rule this nation.

"The question is simply whether a handful of judges ought to be allowed to exceed their lawful authority by paying more attention to their own personal economic and social beliefs than to the Constitution. The issue is between special vested interests, doing nothing behind an economic theory of days gone by, on the one hand, and the will of the people to govern themselves, on the other. When a judge sets himself squarely athwart the people's path to progress, it is time for the true defenders of democracy to take action.

"Do not be fooled by the crocodile tears shed by these reactionary defenders of a backward Court in the name of civil liberties. I am as concerned about the civil and religious liberties of our people as any man in the United States. I know what it is to fight for lost causes. My father fought many of them, and I know what it cost him. I have fought for many myself, some bitterly and passionately unpopular. But no kind of legal guarantees is more than a scrap of paper in the chaos produced by the breakdown of an economic system. Our civil liberties in this country will be preserved as long as we can keep our people satisfied with a democratic system of government which allows them, but no longer. No court, and particularly a court which the people may rightly blame for their inability to solve their economic and social problems, can ever have the moral strength and prestige in time of chaos to protect human rights and civil liberties. Revolutionary changes come not from had men but from bad social conditions and the impotence of governments to correct them. Those who hold our civil liberties dear should rally to support the President's proposal and thus preserve the fundamental principal of democratic self-government.

"There are a number of men in Congress who propose to settle this issue of judicial usurpation by constitutional amendment. Some of them are sincere but misguided liberals whose intentions are worthy. I would favor the future an amendment which would give Congress the power to override a decision of the Supreme Court if it declares an act of Congress unconstitutional. This would provide a more certain mechanism of restraining judicial power. But an amendment to the Constitution is too slow a remedy to be used as an alternative to the President's program. We can and should consider it in addition to the President's suggestions. But in saying that I have no illusions about the amendment route. I venture the prediction that the amendment proposed by Senator Wheeler and others could not muster thirty votes in the Senate.

**"The real support behind the**

(Continued on Page 6)

## A. F. of L. to Extend

(Continued from Page 1)

tensive organizing campaign in the fabrication plants of the industry," said Mr. Green.

We went on to show that this was by no means the sole activity of the A. F. of L. The cement workers, in particular, were being organized rapidly into "bona fide" unions. He said that much was happening in other industries. "Cereals are organized," he replied to a question, and to other questions answered that drilling station employes were being rapidly enrolled.

The invitation to Frey to meet with the company unions in Pittsburgh came up early in Green's press conference. At that time, Fred had not accepted. Newspapermen reminded Green that he had refused to have anything to do with company unions, and asked him if he were going to accept. He replied that he supposed the company union had asked Frey on a different basis from the invitation to himself, and that Frey would be acting entirely within his rights, whatever he decided to do.

**Federation to Fight**

The subject kept coming up, and Green said that he saw no reason why members of company union should not come into a "bona fide" union if they chose. The CIO had been asking in company unions, bodily, he said, and why should not the A. F. of L. do it?

While issuing no formal declaration of war, Mr. Green made it clear that the federation will fight for a share in the organization of the mass production industries.

Frey made it clear that he was going to conference with the company union men very thoroughly on guard.

**Frey to Talk Things Over"**

"All I told them was that I would meet with them," he said. "I do not yet know their problems, and I shall make it clear to them I said, 'I will sit down at the table with you, and talk things over."


Canned FRUIT SALE

The sale that thousands of New Englanders have been waiting for. Be sure and stock up this week and you will make great savings.

Canned Peaches

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| FINAST | SLICED OR HALVES IN HEAVY SYRUP | 2 | LGE No 2 TINS | 29c |
| DEL MONTE | DELICIOUS HALVES IN HEAVY SYRUP | 2 | LGE No 2½ TINS | 31c |
| GLORIETTA | FREE STONE No 2½ TIN | 23c 2 | TALL TINS | 27c |

Canned Pears

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| RICHMOND | TENDER-FLAVORFUL IN SWEET SYRUP | 2 | No 2 TINS | 29c |
| FINAST | CHOICE QUALITY DELICIOUS HALVES IN SWEET SYRUP | 2 | LGE No 2½ TINS | 35c |
| DEL MONTE | FANCY QUALITY SWEET - TASTY | | LGE No 2½ TIN | 19c |

Other Canned Fruits

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GRAPEFRUIT | FINAST CHILL AND SERVE | 3 | No 2 TINS | 29c |
| DEL MONTE | FRUIT FOR SALAD No 2½ TIN 29c | | No 1 TIN | 17c |
| EVEREADY | FRUIT COCKTAIL 2 No 1 TINS 25c | | LGE No 2½ TIN | 23c |
| EXQUISITE | WHOLE UNPEELED APRICOTS | 2 | LGE No 2½ TINS | 29c |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MACARONI | SPAGHETTI OR ELBOWS - FINAST | 3 | 8 oz PKGS 17c |
| SPINACH | FINAST - FREE FROM GRIT | 2 | LGE No 2½ TINS 29c |
| WHITE SPRAY | WHEAT CEREAL | 2 | 28 oz PKGS 29c |
| CUT-RITE WAX PAPER | | | 40 FT ROLL 5c |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| GORTON'S | CODFISH CAKES | 2 | 10 oz TINS 25c |
| SHRIMP | FANCY WET PACK | 2 | TALL TINS 27c |
| COCOMALT | HEALTH DRINK | | ½ LB TIN 21c |
| ORANGE MARMALADE | "JUR" DEL | 2 | 1 LB JARS 29c |
| PLYMOUTH ROCK | GELATINE PLAIN or COFFEE | 2 | PKGS 25c |
| BANANA CAKE | | | EACH 15c |
| CURRANT BUNS | | | PKG 10c |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| N.B.C. SALTINAS | CRISP - DELICIOUS | LB PKG | 21c |
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# BANGOR

## BANGOR C. L. U. DELEGATES HEAR FINE ADDRESS ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BY COMM'ER JOHNSON

### Central Labor Union Makes Provision for Meetings of New Crafts for Organizing Purposes—Legislative Committee Consistent Attendants at State House Hearings—C. L. U. to Stage Entertainment and Smoker as Part of Plan to Raise 1937 Convention Fund.

After acting on the appeal of several groups for use of its quarters in the Post Office Square building for organization meeting purposes, the Bangor Central Labor Union, at its monthly meeting, voted to finance the initial meetings for any group desirous of starting an organization. Since the first of the present month, three different groups availed themselves of this offer, one of which is now fully organized, and it is expected will soon become affiliated with the Central body.

The new Truck Drivers' Union demonstrated its interest in meetings of the C. L. U. by participating in large numbers at the open forum which preceded the business session, at which Commissioner Frank D. Johnson of the Unemployment Insurance Commission told the assemblage of the benefits that will accrue to wage earners under this plan, and answered pertinent questions regarding the Act following his interesting and enlightening address on the subject of "Unemployment Insurance".

John Ambrose and H. W. Pattee, members of the C. L. U. and old-time Labor leaders, each contributed $1 toward defraying the expenses of meeting of groups seeking organization. Their fine spirit of cooperation brought words of praise from President Benjamin J. Dorsky, who presided at the meeting.

The Legislative Committee has been very active since the Legislature has been in session at Augusta, appearing with groups from central bodies of other Maine cities whenever bills of importance to Labor have come up for hearing. This committee comprises President Dorsky, who is also a vice president of the Maine State Federation of Labor; Treasurer Richard W. Gustin, also treasurer of the State Federation; and Brothers Ambrose and Pattee.

Plans for entertainment and smoker, featuring wrestling matches, were discussed at the March 7th meeting. It is expected that several hundred will attend this affair, through which funds will be raised to meet part of the expenses of the 1937 convention of the State Branch, to be held in the "Queen City of Maine" next June.

# RUMFORD

## INDUSTRIAL SITUATION IN RUMFORD WITH INCREASED BUSINESS AT OXFORD PLANT, REPORTED GOOD

### Number of Unemployed Greatly Reduced During Past Few Months and City Takes on New Lease of Life—Completion of Repairs on Morse Bridge to Facilitate Traffic—Winter Sports Bring Hordes of Visitors.

There is more optimism prevalent among the rank and file of Rumford people contacted by this correspondent during a trip to this paper manufacturing center of Maine, which is also famous as a center for Winter sports and as a mecca for Summer tourists as well. This change is actuated by the fact that the Oxford Paper Company's large plant is not only running to full capacity but providing a weekly payroll that is about equal to that of this mill and the Continental Company, prior to the closing of the latter some months ago.

More people are employed at the Oxford Mill than ever before, and hopes are entertained that the company will make use of the vacant Continental plant, and thus absorb most of the remaining workers left without jobs to this date since the closing of the International Paper Co.'s local factory. While more than 100 paper workers have left town, most of them thrown out of work when the Continental closed, many have been given work at the Oxford mill, and still more will secure employment if the company decides to start further operations here.

Another factor that lends itself to a better outlook for everyone, and the merchants in particular, is the fact that the Morse Bridge, which has been closed to traffic since last year's flood, will soon be re-opened. Work on repairs and relocation has been going on for months, and during this time traffic that would have come into this town was diverted, so that last Summer local hotels and stores lost much of the patronage usually received.

Every hotel in Rumford was crowded to capacity several times this season by trainloads of Winter sports followers, who came here for the carnival and skiing, tobogganing and skating. Had this been a normal Winter the town would have benefited to an even greater extent by the influx of week-end guests.

One of the big events of the coming season for Rumford is the Western Maine High School Music Festival, to be held on May 8. It is expected that 1200 young musicians will come to Rumford for this affair.

### REPAIRS ON McKENZIE'S STORE TO BE STARTED SOON

McKenzie's Department Store, which has been occupying temporary quarters opposite Harry Hall's Garage since the fire which destroyed its large establishment, will soon start work on repairing and modernizing its Water street building, according to Manager Chandler.

## Distilleries Chief Lauds Union Shop

E. J. Warden, assistant secretary of Northwest Distilleries, Inc., Spokane, Wash., has informed the organized labor movement of that city that both the distillery and bottling plant of the company will continue to operate on the 100 per cent union labor basis which has been in effect since May of last year.

He said that the reorganized company proposes to live up to all union standards itself, and in addition will insist that all products coming into the plant carry the union label, with the exception of products bought under old contracts entered into prior to the agreement. "As soon as these contracts are completed," he stated, "they, as well as all other purchases by this company, must and will have the union label."

## Organizer Warns Against Too Much Front Office Stuff

Worcester, Mass., March 12 — That a great mistake is made, and one that has been the cause of much trouble in settling grievances with publishers in the past, is what is known in Typographical Union parlance as "too much front office stuff," was the gist of a spirited talk by Organizer William A. Weinlein of the International Typographical Union at the monthly meeting of Local 165, held at Union Labor Temple, last Sunday afternoon.

Wm. Weinlein mentioned a number of instances which he said made it difficult to straighten out bad conditions, caused by too close relations existing between some members of a union with the management.

He warned against this, saying that all matters which concern the union should be transacted by those whose duties are to represent the union in these matters.

In his experience of more than a dozen years as I. T. U representative, he has found that in local unions there are some members who, through selfish motives, seek close contacts with front office executives.

"This usually results in one unconsciously making statements which may prove detrimental to the union," he said, and strongly advised against this procedure, stating that all should have confidence in their union officers and leave matters which properly belong to the union to be adjusted through regular channels.

The speaker said one of the great difficulties experienced in efforts to settle the Springfield strike was mostly due to "too much front office stuff" on the part of several members, who had perhaps unconsciously divulged matters concerning the union's activities. Conditions resulting from this unfortunate strike, he said, should serve as an object-lesson, and cause members to think twice before exposing themselves and their union to the dangers imminent from such action.

It was announced there will be a special meeting of Local 165 at Union Labor Temple on Sunday, March 21 for the transaction of important business.

## One-Day Strike Wins Union Pact for Hotel Workers

Washington, D. C., Mar. 16 (AFL)—A one-day strike against the Willard Hotel declared by the Washington Local No. 734 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America, resulted in a victory for the union, according to Miguel Garriga, international representative and chief spokesman for the strikers.

The strike, which included waiters, waitresses, cooks and kitchen help, practically paralyzed the food and beverage activities of the hotel. It was called in protest against the alleged action of the hotel management who, union officials claimed, had "intimidated and coerced" employes belonging to the union.

Following conferences with both sides, by Edward F. McGrady, Assistant Secretary of Labor, the strike was terminated on terms which included return of all strikers to their positions without discrimination and a pledge by the hotel management to discuss wages, hours, arbitration and any other employment questions with properly constituted representatives of the union, with the proviso that the union agrees not to press for the closed shop.

"We got union recognition," declared Mr. Garriga in commenting on the strike settlement terms. "We are the only agents for employes in the hotel and on our terms of hours and wages. We believe that at present it would not be fair to insist on a strictly closed shop."

## Fair Trade Law Terms Are Set by Michigan Labor

The Michigan State Federation of Labor announces that it will support no "fair trade" bill in the State Legislature unless it carries collective bargaining features.

One of the bills so far introduced is described as a measure "to eliminate the chiseler from business competition." It's author, Representative Frank Steele of Muskegon, says the measure is copied from the one enforced in Wisconsin, which received the approval of the Wisconsin State Supreme Court and is now under review by the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Steele bill would organize industry into groups and provide codes of fair competition with maximum hours and minimum wages for employes. It also guarantees the right of the workers to organize, with freedom from compulsory membership in company unions, and makes provision for collective bargaining.

THE LABOR NEWS, 80c A YEAR

## NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE STANDS BY PRESIDENT ON JUDICIAL PROGRAM

(Continued from Page 5)

movement for a constitutional amendment as the way of settling this issue is coming from the reactionaries who were beaten at the polls last November. They know only too well that Constitutional amendment is a long and slow process. They know that thirteen states are sufficient to defeat any such effort. They know too that by working on the thirteen smallest states in the Union they can block the will of the entire nation with the votes of only ten per cent of the people. They know why the child labor amendment is still wandering in the wilderness after thirteen long years. And they also know that even if the amendment does become a part of the Constitution, a reactionary Court can be relied upon to pervert its true intent by the use of this process known as judicial interpretation.

"The people have plenty of power within the Constitution as it stands today to solve their immediate problems. There is no need of amending it. Read the opinions of Holmes, Brandeis, Stone and Cardozo if you are tempted to doubt that. You will find there the forthright opinions of some of the greatest legal minds that have been on the Supreme Court stating that the Constitution as now does provide Congress and the people with all necessary powers to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty for the American people."

### People Overwhelmingly in Favor of President's Program

"I am confident that if this question were to be put up to the American people tomorrow in a general plebescite, their answer would be an overwhelming endorsement of the President's proposals. For after all, the fundamental question is: Who shall rule this nation, the people or the Court? To my mind there can be only one answer. The nation was established by the people and it is theirs to govern as their welfare will require. The Court is simply an institution set up to do a specific job. When it fails to do that job as the people want it done, when it hinders rather than helps in the solution of social problems, it is the people's right and privilege to change it.

"Our task at the present time is to make sure that the voice of the masses is not lost in the tumult raised by organized minorities. Special interests are protesting to Congress against President Roosevelt's plan for judicial reorganization and they come with the hands of Jacob but the voice of Esau. They claim to represent the sentiment of the people, but be not deceived. We must not confuse noise and activity with numbers. The special interests are both very noisy and exceedingly active, but the people have the numbers. And the people want to retain control of their own government."

### Faith in President

In opening the convention, Major George L. Berry, chairman of the Labor's Non-Partisan League, who is also president of the International Printing Pressmen's Union, outlined in detail the organization's aims, objects and aspirations, at the conclusion of which he said: "I call upon the leadership and the rank and file of Labor's Non-Partisan League to rise and support this great undertaking, again demonstrating our faith in the great President whose re-election was our first accomplished objective. We must follow him along the path which he has chosen. We must end judicial dictatorship in America."

It was a great audience he was addressing. They came from all parts of the country. Many were most enthusiastic, and their interest was manifested with vociferous applause.

Principal among the speakers, besides Major Berry and Senator La Follette, were Edward F. McGrady, Assistant U. S. Secretary of Labor; Dennis Lane, secretary of the Amalgamated Association of Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen; Judge Michael Musmanno, C. C. Talbott, president of the North Dakota Farmers' Union; Thomas Kennedy, secretary United Mine Workers, and others.

President Charles P. Howard of the International Typographical Union, spoke at the Monday evening session, his address being broadcast over a general radio hook-up.

### Delegates Call on Senators and Representatives

The morning session adjourned at 1 o'clock to permit delegates to call on their Senators and Representa. and secure, if possible, expressions of opinions regarding the President's judicial program. These submitted their reports at Tuesday morning's session, and which were made part of the convention records for future action.

Major Berry explained to the delegates that officials of the League would have been pleased if arrangements could have been made to have the entire delegation call on the President at the White House, to present to him the resolution passed at Monday morning's session, but for good reasons this was not feasible. He said he had arranged, however, to have a committee wait on the President. Designated to carry out the purpose of the convention were: Major Berry, John L. Lewis, president United Mine Workers of America; Judge Michael Musmanno, Dennis Lane, Steve Nance, Joseph Obergfell, Harvey Fremming, J. C. Lewis, Miss Rose Schneiderman and Luigi Antonini. Farm organizations were represented on the delegation by N. V. Thatcher, chairman Wheat Conservation Conference; John Vesecky, president Kansas Farmers' Union; C. C. Talbott, president North Dakota Farmers' Union, and members of other state units of the Farmers' Union.

### Stands Solidly Behind President

The writer has attended numerous conventions and conferences of a national character, but never before was he so greatly impressed with the unanimity of purpose as was demonstrated at this, the second meeting of Labor's Non-Partisan League. Contrary to the statements by some newspapers nothing of a partisan nature transpired. The one object was to demonstrate to the people of the United States that Organized Labor stands solidly behind President Roosevelt in his important program of rejuvenation of the Federal Judiciary. The delegate from the State of Washington was of the same mind on this question as was the delegate from Maine. The same opinion prevailed by the delegates of Florida and California and there was no difference between the opinions entertained by the delegates of Texas and New York. All were of one mind, and all pledged themselves to return to their respective homes and apply Labor's slogan: "Elect your friends and defeat your enemies" at the next election.

On several occasions speakers at the convention expressed unbounded confidence that Congress will favor the President's Court program. This was best stated by Assistant U. S. Secretary of Labor Edward F. McGrady, who said: "The President and the people are going to win this battle against reaction. Something must be done about this small group of men who have seized greater power than the President and the whole Congress."

Concerning this, Major Berry said: "We are more determined to draw the line of demarkation between our friends and our enemies than we have ever been before. We are going to win this fight because it's right. We are going to win this fight because we have the courage to stick our head out when others didn't have the guts to do it."

### Waiters' Strike Interrupted Proceedings

Delegates were greatly perturbed over an incident which, in a measure was disappointing and which brought sharp words from the presiding officer at Monday evening's session. While out conferring with officials of the Congress, the Highland Waiters, employed at the Willard Hotel, staged a strike about 5:30 o'clock, causing delegates who were registered there to go elsewhere for their supper. However the matter finally passed off good naturedly and a committee of five delegates was named to confer with a like committee from the Culinary Workers' Union to meet with the management to bring about a settlement.

Among other matters discussed at Monday night's session was the ratification of the Child Labor Amendment, and the following resolution was adopted:

"That Labor's Non-Partisan League calls upon its officers and members throughout all legislative districts in those states that have not as yet taken action to exert all possible influence and bring prospective state legislatures to bring about such ratification of the Child Labor Amendment."

Attorney Donald E. Young, president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, represented the Maine State Non-Partisan League at the convention. While in Washington, Mr. Young conferred with officials of the League, which resulted in outlining a program of activities to be carried on throughout the State. How this is to be conducted was not definitely decided, but the program, which is now before the executive council of the National League for consideration, will include radio broadcasts, mass meetings, and a complete covering of Central bodies and local unions, fraternal and other organizations throughout the State.


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## Branch of Labor's

(Continued from Page 1)

judgment. (I frankly admit this is true of myself). I now fully realize that in order to accomplish our common objectives we must unite, forget party and insincere political promises and go forth shoulder to shoulder to combat those candidates of both major parties who are owned body and soul by special interests, their conscience governed only by selfishness, greed and avarice. This type of person always has and always will use every means at his command to defeat all forward-looking, progressive legislation.

I make no exceptions. The servants of special privilege, insofar as Maine is concerned, are as much in control of the Democratic as the Republican party, which is a challenge to us which must be met. We are to blame for this condition; let us forget how our forefathers voted, or how much personal gain can be derived, and go out and fight with all the force and vigor at our command to elect Labor's friends. We have the strength—let us display it.

In a great many legislative classes in our state, Labor is in a position to elect any candidate it desires. I maintain that in such sections we should have our own candidates. If in



ALONZO F. YOUNG

a strongly Republican district, select a Republican, and vice versa. By so doing we could have in the Legislature not a mere few but a great number of men and women with an honest desire to serve the people's interests and willing and eager to support organized Labor's legislative program.

### Solicits Assistance

Of course, our first and foremost action should be to formulate and perfect Labor's Non-Partisan League in Maine. I promise to exert all the energy and such capabilities as I possess to accomplish this. I solicit your aid and advice and beg your sincere cooperation. I address this request to every Labor organization in the State.

It is an incontrovertible fact that agriculture and industry are interdependent; that there can be no prosperity for one without prosperity for the other. The farmers of this State need our assistance, we need theirs. We extend a special invitation to them to acquaint themselves with our aims and ambitions with a view to better relationship in the future. Don't let us forget that in unity there is strength.

One fact which I want to make perfectly clear is that Labor's Non-Partisan League is in no sense identified with any new political party. We shall use our entire political structure in support of candidates in both major parties who are unquestionably our friends.

### Glance at the Statutes

You need only to glance at the statutes to realize the lack of Labor legislation. This statement is not meant to cast any reflection upon Labor's representatives. It is no fault of theirs that an overwhelming majority of both the House and Senate are utterly unaware of our problems and in a great many instances are hostile to our program. Just so long as we continue to elect these men and women on party lines, with no thought as to how they will react to our recommendations, just so long will laws be enacted favorable to special privilege.

It is imperative that we send to the State House more persons with an enlightened view of our present economic structure, who will recognize the crying need of laws in keeping with the present era. What laws have we pertaining to the right to organize and bargain collectively? What facilities to prevent unfair labor practices? What rights in the event of strike or lockout? Yes, we do have a 54-hour law regulating the employment of women.

The appropriation to the Labor Department is so inadequate that lack of enforcement is prevalent in all sections of our State. No girl dares to complain for fear of losing her job. I can name specific cases where women are working as many as 70 hours a week for as little as $5. I maintain that such a condition is a challenge to every fair-thinking citizen. Such working conditions as these not only destroy the health of the employes themselves; it also leaves its mark on future generations. We must do something to eliminate the flagrant violations of this act.

### Haven for Exploiters

You view with scorn the tactics of a sweat-shop employer, but do you realize we have many sweat-shops in this great State of ours? Many employers in the past few years have migrated here to escape just laws establishing maximum hours, minimum wages and humane sanitary working conditions. Are we to become a haven for the exploitation of labor? I don't believe we care for such a reputation.

These are only a few of the vital problems which confront us. Are we going to remain idle and let them continue? No; we are going to unite and insure the passage of laws protecting the masses.

We, as American citizens, know of only one way to remedy distressed conditions; that way is by the ballot. I entreat you to forget personal grievances and to give us your aid in perfecting this branch of Labor's Non-Partisan League so that we may go forward and achieve a glorious fulfillment of our ideals. Our aims are worthy of your efforts. Let's go.

### Maine Non-Partisan League Endorses Court Plan

At a meeting of the Maine Labor's Non-Partisan League held in Augusta last Saturday, the judicial program advocated by President Roosevelt was endorsed. Alonzo F. Young of Bar Harbor was elected president.

# LEWISTON

## FIRST MOVE BY C. I. O. TO ORGANIZE IN MAINE STARTED IN LEWISTON WITH HAPGOOD AS SPEAKER

**Official in Charge of CIO Activities, as This Applies to Shoe Workers, Tells Gathering at City Hall Recent 10 Per Cent Wage Raise Due to CIO Agitation—Starts Move as President Green Issues Statement Relative to Preservation of Jurisdiction for A. F. of L. Affiliates.**

(Special to The Labor News)

Lewiston, March 13.—The program outlined by the Committee for Industrial Organization to organize the shoe workers of New England, which was begun in Massachusetts a few weeks ago, when efforts were made to consolidate the three independent unions, was extended to this State when 1200 shoe workers employed in the Lewiston-Auburn district were addressed by Powers Hapgood, a CIO organizer, in Lewiston City Hall last Thursday evening.

The meeting closely followed a statement issued by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, which claimed the CIO was interfering with the jurisdiction of the Federation and that this action made more apparent the fact that the CIO was planning to not only organize new mass production industries but that its apparent determination is to set up a dual organization to the A. F. of L. In the statement, included a request to Robert J. Watt, secretary of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, that every possible effort be made to protect the jurisdiction of the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, which is an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, and to make this as effective as possible.

The shoe workers employed in the Lewiston-Auburn district, who are organized as members of the United Shoe Workers of America, one of the three independent unions started five years ago, and which caused nearly 30,000 members to withdraw their affiliation from the B. & S. W. in Massachusetts. From that very moment, with no agreements to keep members from striking, as had been the case for many years, when local unions were held to observe their union label agreements, trouble began, the result of which caused an exodus of manufacturers from that State, who sought locations in other parts of New England.

Maine was one of the States where some of these manufacturers located. They not only felt secure as to freedom from labor troubles, but that costs of production could be considerably lowered through much decreased wages.

But manufacturers did not figure with their hosts. It was not long before one of the independent unions located in Maine and began to organize. There have been frequent strikes. Little progress was made, principally because of lack of solidarity, and now the workers are looking [illegible] the CIO for relief.

[illegible], the coming of Powers Hapgood to Maine, who is in charge of the Shoe Workers' Organizing campaign [illegible] the New England area. In his [illegible] last Thursday, Mr. Hapgood told his hearers the 10 per cent increase they received was wholly due to the agitation started in mass production industries.

Members of A. F. of L. unions here say this is not true—that the increase had been planned some time ago because of increased business. What effect Mr. Hapgood's speech had upon the workers, remains to be seen. It is said there are many among those who belong to the United who would welcome a change. For the most part, these are former members of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union who were connected with the industry while employed in Massachusetts factories, and who refer to the many years of peace and good conditions enjoyed for many years through the system of union label agreements with manufacturers.

According to an article appearing in daily newspapers last Thursday, under a Washington date, CIO officials announced no program had been outlined to conduct activities in Maine unless the State Federation of Labor and Central bodies construe a recent letter received from the A. F. of L. as orders to expel CIO affiliates.

What action the CIO will take as this applies to organizing textile workers in the State, is problematical. It is most likely, however, that, according to announcement a few days ago, the textile program—as this concerns the woolen and worsted industry—will [illegible] carried on by the Federation of W[illegible] and Worsted Workers, with which [illegible] Maine are affiliated, with Geor[illegible] of Waterville as general organizer [illegible] the U. T. W. of A. in charge of the Maine district.

As to organizational activities in the cotton, silk and rayon industries, nothing has been definitely decided as yet. As this is written, all New England organizers are in conference with Vice-President Horace A. Riviere of the U. T. W. in Providence, and it is most likely activities in the above and the dyeing, finishing and printing industry will be outlined at today's meeting.

As far as known, none of the Central bodies in the State of Maine have taken definite action on President Green's letter concerning the CIO. The communication was read at the last meetings of the Portland and Bangor Central Labor Unions, but action was postponed until their next meetings, when the subject will be made a special matter for discussion and action.

## Outside Organizers Barred from Future Use of City Hall

Lewiston, March 13.—While it has been extremely difficult to secure halls for holding mass meetings during the past few years, or since the Textile Workers' Union attempted to organize the workers in local mills, it it most probable that future possibilities will prove more difficult than ever for any organization, including the C. I. O., and especially when outside speakers are concerned.

According to Mayor Donast Levesque, when the local committee engaged City Hall for the Shoe Workers' mass meeting last week, it was specifically understood, and that he had secured a promise from George A. Poulin of the Shoe Workers' local, that no outside speaker would be permitted to address the meeting.

The appearance of Powers Hapgood, New England representative of the C. I. O., in charge of organizing shoe workers, contrary to the understanding, as the principal speaker of the evening, constituted a breach of contract between Poulin and Mayor Levesque.

While banning the use of City Hall for mass meetings is considered a breach of constitutional right of free speech and assembly, and gives dual organizations an opportunity to plead with the public for action in opposition to such methods, the fact remains that a pledge was broken and present indications are that past difficulties experienced in securing a hall for mass meetings will be greatly increased.

## "LET'S GO TO FIFTH AVENUE" IS NEW SAYING IN LEWISTON WHEN GOING SHOPPING ON LISBON ST.

**Many New and Attractive Store Fronts Completed During Past Few Months Make This Busy Main Street a Mecca for Shoppers—Building Mechanics Greatly Benefited From Extensive Repairs and Alterations.**

Maine's Fifth Avenue is Lisbon Street in Lewiston, which during the past year, and especially since the advent of 1937 has "gone modern" in a big way. Always the center of fashion in store fronts and in display styles and interior arrangements for the better showing of the varied lines of merchandise which its stores feature, Lisbon street now lays claim to having the greatest number of fashion-right modernistic store settings in the entire State.

Every trip that this correspondent has made to Lewiston witnesses the transformation of another store into a modern setting, so it seems, until now from one end to the other of the shopping center of this street, a myriad of colors rivaling that of the most beautiful rainbow is unwinded in one's travel from store to store, whose effectiveness is more impressive to the pedestrian than the fast moving motorist.

That color plays a dominant part in new store fronts is visualized by the various new alterations, some of which are in shades of blue, golden hues, various shades of red, greens, yellows, and black and white.

It is estimated that more than half a million dollars have been spent by the enterprising and far-sighted merchants of Lisbon Street in beautifying their establishments through exterior and interior modernization. This has provided employment throughout the past year for all building trades, and has resulted in increased sales. It therefore contributes to the prosperity of Lewiston.

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Now ready with complete displays of
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Ah, yes, the perennial Spring clothes problem. But what FUN —if you come to SQUIRE'S. For just the things you like, just the things you've planned, are HERE . . . and at prices you hoped for!
SQUIRE'S
52 Main Street
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Waterville Furniture Co.'s Outlet Store needs used furniture badly and is ready to bid high for those old, unwanted pieces of yours against the purchase of new furniture, rugs, radios, stoves and all sorts of electrical appliances.
A CREDIT SLIP WILL BE ISSUED TO YOU for the value of the Old Furniture you trade in. This credit slip may be used now or at any future date toward the purchase of new furniture.
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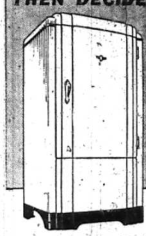
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Gardiner Maytag Store
306 Water Street
Gardiner, Maine

Waterville Maytag Store
14 Main Street
Waterville, Maine

Stearns Furniture Company
Main Street
Farmington, Maine

Wiscasset Radio Service
Middle Street
Wiscasset, Maine

Blanchard H. Brown, Inc.
664 Forest Avenue
Woodfords, Maine

Waldo Maytag Store
341 Waldo Street
Rumford, Maine

Houlton Maytag Store
Houlton, Maine

Fort Fairfield Maytag Sales
Fort Fairfield, Maine

Smith & Rowe Sales Co.
Main Street
Norway, Maine

Grondin & Ryan
46 Washington Street
Biddeford, Maine

Sanford Maytag & Appliance Store
32 Winter Street
Sanford, Maine

Northeastern Sales Corp.
STATE DISTRIBUTORS
Stewart-Warner
Safety-Zone Refrigerators and All-Wave Radios
157 LISBON STREET
LEWISTON, MAINE

# A Man at Seventy

(Continued from Page 1)

called upon to select a new managing director. The man of 70, who is due for retirement is made chairman of the executive board, but the man selected to succeed him, is invariably under or about 50 years old.

Locally, we have experienced this when the New England Power was reorganized, we witnessed the selection of Frank Comerford, a Worcester boy, who was made president of that vast corporation, with power stations furnishing light and power to hundreds of communities, and the owners of street railways and other companies using electric power in all parts of New England. When selected for that position, Mr. Comerford was under 40, and so greatly were his services appreciated, that within a few years he was made president of the Edison Company at a greatly increased salary.

We cite this case because of its local connection, but a summary will show that this is the rule practised in hundreds of other great corporations throughout the country.

Only this week, the president of Yale College, James B. Angell, was retired at 68, which is the retirement rule observed by that institution and, a younger man was named to succeed him. What is one to consider the prime factor which caused this rule to be adopted by that great institution of learning, but the fact that at 68, the head man of an institution which exacts strength, vitality, excellent health and good judgment, has become more or less exhausted and the apparent need of a younger man possessing all these is entirely justifiable. And it is so, down the line, down to the worker—one who has toiled in shop and factory, at the bench or in the construction of buildings, the man on the railroad, and in all other occupations where speed, efficiency, strength and good health are requirements to make him a profitable producer.

Among the first organizations to realize the necessity to provide for its aged members was the International Typographical Union which, 25 years ago established its old age pension system, and placed the age of retirement at 60 years. The promoters of this plan not only took under consideration the fact that a person who had labored in a composing room for 40 or more years was bound to meet with drawbacks due to advancing age, but also regarded the interests of employers by providing remuneration for members who for various reasons might become partly incapacitated to render efficient service.

The same reason prevailed in industry in which, for many years, pension systems for all employes, executives as well as workers, have been in force—and recently the U. S. Congress adopted a pension system through the National Security Act, for the protection of those who have reached the age of 65.

Of course, there are exceptions, as it is commonly thought some men at 70 are as active in mind and body as are many persons of 50. But these are comparatively few, and only those who have reached the period of three score and 10, and who were endowed with a strong constitution, and who through good care and moderation in all things have been able to retain good health, their normal strength and mental faculties are in a position to judge the capabilities, temperament, good judgment and other qualifications of men in responsible positions, whether it be business, judicial, professional, educational, or those employed as executives and producers.

First of all to consider is one's strength to overcome the mental as well as physical strain which the man of 70 is called upon to meet in the new order of things. World competition in manufactured goods, competition among colleges, whose administrators must be able to judge as to the qualifications and ability of students as baseball and football players, as well as their fitness for entrance from an educational standpoint; the shrewdness of business managers who are compelled to cope with the schemes of chiselers; problems confronting Labor executives to combat speed-up, sweat shop, prison labor and other systems all concocted to compete with efforts to stabilize wages and working conditions; laws enacted by Congress to more equalize the distribution of wealth and to make the lot of workers happier and with more contentment, thereby taxing the minds of the judiciary, are all matters that require clear thinking minds, unprejudiced by former associations, to interpret the law, when its intent is known to not only stabilize the nation's business, but to bring greater returns to the millions of people whose labor makes immense profits possible for the comparatively few.

With all these facts in mind, the question arises—are jurists who have reached the age of 70 as capable of rendering competent justice as are younger men? Is their temperament such that they are able to give their whole thought and action to such weighty problems as they are called upon to meet at this time? Did not the environments of some of these, who, prior to their elevation to their present high offices, who had spent most of their professional lives as lawyers for corporations, deny them the proper temperament to judge fairly on the great questions now before them?

From the standpoint of health, the man of 70 is as a rule greatly handicapped. He might retire at night feeling fit as a fiddle, but the next morning rise with a feeling that every bone in his body is on the verge of breaking.

If he "catches" a cold, his system lacks the resistance to overcome the serious results that are certain to follow, and as a consequence much care is necessary before one is able to resume his ordinary duties.

Unless one is endowed with a perfect disposition, he is subject to fits of excitement, which as a rule, is followed by weakness, headaches, a disturbed stomach, and other ailments.

Then, of course, there is the usual trouble caused from indigestion, to which, from close observation, nine of every 10 men who have reached that age are sufferers. This causes depression, sluggishness, lack of ambition, tiredness, bad temper and all that goes with that ailment.

While younger men are often afflicted with these troubles, they are not as complicated, and with proper care and diligence are comparatively easy to overcome.

Now, it is not the intention of the writer to say that all members of the U. S. Supreme Court and other Federal judges are dyspeptics, and whose adverse rulings against liberal measures are caused by bad temperament; but if we are to judge from our observations concerning the average man of 70 we are correct in our belief that members of that august body, being human, are subject to such ailments, and that at least five of them because of their persistency in opposing every law enacted by Congress in connection with the New Deal program, can be included in this category.

The likes and dislikes of the man of 70 are more pronounced than they are at an earlier age. He is usually quick to appreciate the good qualifications of friends, and little marks of kindness and consideration make lasting impressions. But, woe to one whom he has reason to believe is unscrupulous, dishonest, deceptive or a double-crosser. That person becomes a candidate for his blacklist, and while not with malice, the victim is made to feel the sting of his venom at some future time.

He is not only appreciative of marks of kindness by his friends but of all things that are beautiful, useful and educational—art, literature, music, the theatre, out-door life, sports, manufacture and close association with friends through organizations of various kinds.

A prominent business man who had reached the age of 70 told the writer recently that he did not begin to enjoy some of the most beautiful things in life until he was 60, and that if he was privileged to live 20 years of his life over again, he would be satisfied to live it not a bit otherwise.

He was a man of moderate means. He said he had experienced his share of troubles, but that the happiness and contentment enjoyed in a modest way had overcome all the trials and tribulations experienced, and prayed he might retain his health so as to be able to enjoy 20 years more of it.

But, as a rule, the man of 70 begins to realize that greater care, a lesser amount of responsibilities, moderate exercising, moderation in eating, drinking, more hours for rest and light recreation, more sleep and shorter working hours are necessary to afford opportunity to enjoy added years of happiness and contentment. For this reason, when alive to his best interests, he not only relinquishes his responsibilities but refuses to hear the calls of his business and political friends to seek others.

There isn't an iota of doubt but what a great majority of people who voted for President Roosevelt at the November election did so in the hope that in his program for continuing New Deal policies, he would advocate the revamping of the United States Supreme Court. This, by many, is considered mandatory on the part of the people, who, during the campaign enthusiastically applauded all criticism made against those who constituted the majority decisions of the court which was greatly responsible for deterring progress in the President's program for the return of national prosperity.

That the President feels duty bound to carry out the will of the people in the last election is certain. The United States Supreme Court, because of the actions of five of its members who arrogate to themselves the right to interpret laws favoring the few as against the masses of people is considered a tremendous hindrance to progress, and even at the cost of displeasing some of his most intimate friends and supporters, he is strongly standing by his original decision.

What will result from this great and momentous effort to revamp the courts is of course problematical; opposition coming, as it does, from those who are classed as progressives and who, because of their profession feel skeptical concerning the making of such radical changes, may not result in a complete victory for the President. But it is certain something will be done, as even among his greatest opponents, are some who realize measures of some sort are necessary and that this may result in a compromise which is bound to provide some relief from the present deplorable situation is certain.

Working people are greatly interested in the outcome. They are aware, however, that most of the criticism against the President is prompted by large employers who, from time immemorial, have looked to the Supreme Court for protection from the enactment of liberal, progressive and remedial legislation.

Labor's Non-Partisan League, formed during the last presidential campaign, with a nation-wide enrolled membership of 350,000, calls upon the Organized Labor movement to stand by the President in his efforts to reform the Federal courts, should immediately get into this great battle and either as individuals or through their State Federations, Central bodies or local unions write their Senators and Congressmen, insisting that the President's program be made a law.

Members of the Judiciary committee, before whom the question is to be discussed, are as follows:

Henry F. Ashurst, Arizona; William H. King, Utah; Matthew M. Neely, West Virginia; Frederick Van Nuys, Indiana; Pat McCarran, Nevada; M. M. Logan, Kentucky; Wm. H. Dietrich, Illinois, Geo. McGill, Kansas; C. A. Hatch, New Mexico; Edw. R. Burke, Nebraska; Key Pittman, Nevada; Tom Connally, Texas; J. C. O'Mahoney, Wyoming; Wm. E. Borah, Idaho; Geo. W. Norris, Nebraska; Warren R. Austin, Vermont.

## Chance for Lewis

(Continued from Page 1)

whom are actuated by political rather than trade union motives, that the C. I. O. will remain an independent organization, and continue its activities as a dual organization. Only those whose experience of many years and who are aware of the great drawbacks surrounding such movements are able to judge as to the results that will accrue.

They recall vividly the tremendous enthusiasm manifested when the Knights of Labor was at the highest peak of glory and success; when big Bill Heywood and his Industrial Workers of the World caused the emotions of some people to swell to unheard of proportions, who actually believed a Moses had been discovered who was to deliver millions of workers out of bondage.

They also recall the comparatively short lived Western Federation of Miners whose leaders predicted the ending of the United Mine Workers, and also the activities of the great Ettor, who by his eloquence and rare ability as a leader was successful in closing nearly every mill in Lawrence in, which were employed nearly 30,000 workers.

We are told that men and things have changed a great deal during the past few years, that people's minds have changed; that subserviency has been changed into independence; that as the result of abuse, exploitation, compulsion and paternalism, workers have become more determined and that seriousness is rapidly replacing emotionalism.

This may be true to a certain extent, but in a recent editorial in this paper facts were stated showing that large numbers of workers who benefited materially as the result of organization failed to appreciate that which had been accomplished in their behalf.

Being of the firm belief that all leaders in this new movement—we refer to those whose motives are actuated by none other than purely trade union principles, are aware of the dangers that may come from a divided house—and that before it is too late, negotiations will be started for bringing this new element in the trade union movement under the banner of the American Federation of Labor.

The executive council of the A. F. of L. in a brief announcement at its recent meeting stated the A. F. of L. is still hopeful that the settlement of the present controversy will be amicably adjusted, that the committee named last fall to negotiate terms is still on the job, and that its members are ready and willing at any time to negotiate peace.

The situation is one that calls for diplomacy. Peace in the Labor movement is most important for the future interests of millions of people. To permit a dual movement to carry on for any great length of time is bound to prove detrimental to the best interests of workers and the Labor movement as a whole in the long run.

Leaders in the Committee for Industrial Organization have proven themselves able and constructive organizers. Not only did they inaugurate new methods which proved successful, but the enthusiastic manner in which they carried on their campaign inspired large bodies of workers to carry out plans according to schedule. That they demonstrated ability as diplomats is exemplified by successes scored in the conference room which made possible settlements that put back to work many thousands of men, and which prevented further outbreaks.

Now, for serious and constructive action, which through unity of purpose will assure organization on a solid basis. The time is most opportune for such a move. Why not now?

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